HOUBUNSHA COMICS

Houbunsha Comics

信長のシェフ 5

漫画・原作 梶川卓郎 / 西村ミツル

STORY BY TAKURO KAJIKAWA
COMIC BY TSUTOMU NISHIMURA

A CHEF OF NOBUNAGA 5

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On Nobunaga's orders, Keiji has departed towards the largest trade center in Warring States Japan, Sakai. However, the merchants of Sakai despise Nobunaga. Moreover, there is a mysterious chef making candies at the Ishiyama Hongan ji Temple! Circumstances begin to sweep our chef from the modern era, Ken, at a dizzying rate!

美味しいコミック、召し上がれ！
HOUBUNSHA COMICS

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山口ふしみ 原作 花形 怜

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信長のシェフ

原作 西村ミツル　漫画 梶川卓郎

A CHEF OF NOBUNAGA

STORY BY MITSURU NISHIMURA
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*This story is a work of fiction and does not always accurately reflect history

Chapter 35 In Sakai

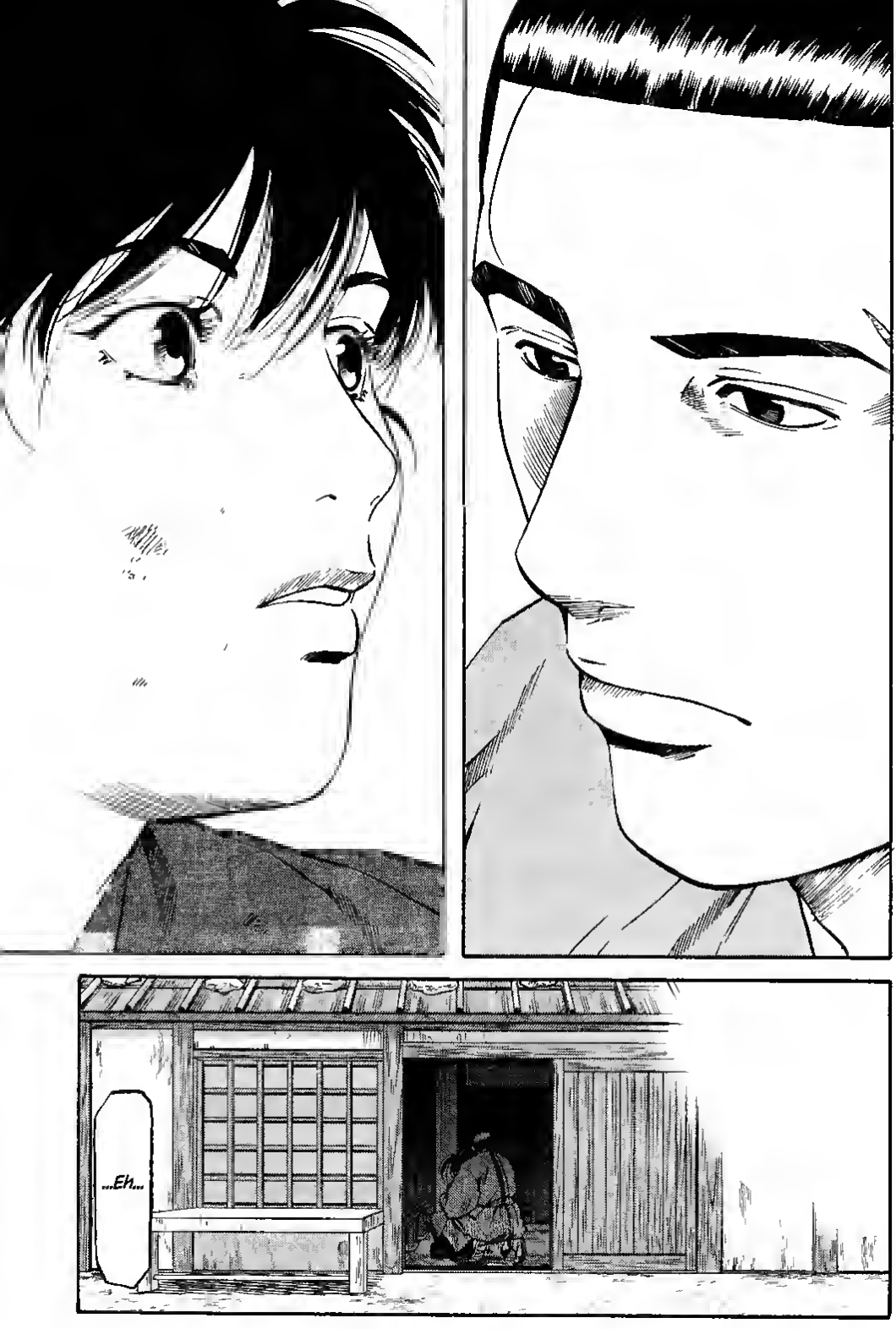
THEY EVEN BROUGHT A BEAUTIFUL LADY, WOW...
WHO KNOWS ...?
I WONDER WHO IT IS... WHO CAME TO THIS ARTISANS' DISTRICT?
SFX. Crouch Crouch
KEN...
AREN'T YOU KEN?!

AND, um... HOW'S NATSU-SAN?
OH, NATSU-SAN'S NEIGHBORS. HOW HAVE YOU BEEN?
SO-SO... IT'S BEEN QUITE A WHILE, HASN'T IT?
SFX. Clang Clang
THAT GIRL'S THE SAME AS ALWAYS.
LISTEN, YOU CAN HEAR IT, RIGHT?
Hehe...
SFX. Clang Clang
HELLO...
KEN.

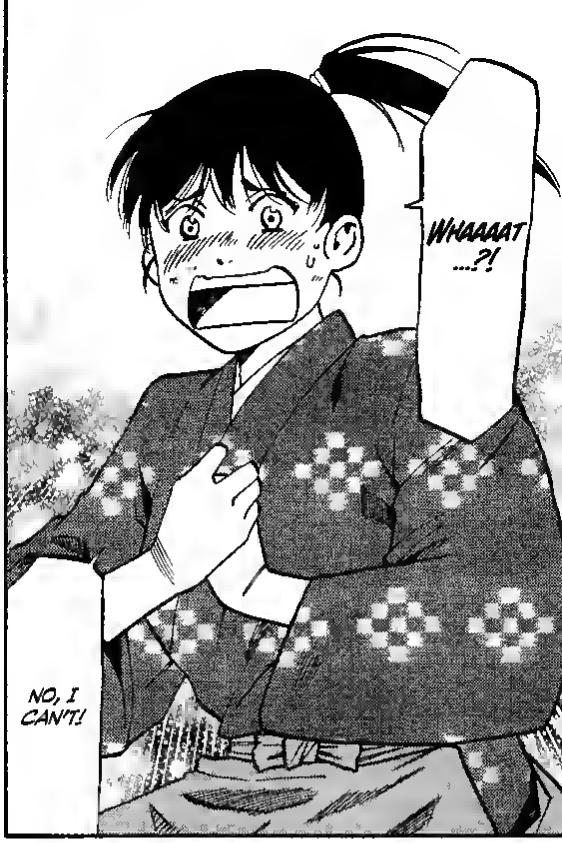
KEN...?
KEN!
SFX: Splash
YOU...
WHAT'S UP? ARE YOU ON FURLOUGH ...?
WHO-OPS!
SFX: Clatter Clatter

NO, ACTUALLY, I WAS JUST RECENTLY OFFERED AN ESTATE BY NOBUNAGA-SAMA...
YOU ARE NOT... ON LEAVE?
SFX Whinny
I-I SEE, SO KEN'S MAKING HIS WAY IN THE WORLD...
Um... CON-GRATULA-TIONS...
Eh...
Huh?
BUT ASKED TO RECEIVE A HOUSE AND SOME FARMLAND INSTEAD.
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT... I ENDED UP DECLINING...
SFX Clatter-Clatter
Whoa... Ouch!
LET ME... LET ME GET SOME-THING TO CELE-BRATE...
NATSU-SAN.
SFX Grab
...NATSU-SAN...
SO...

WON'T YOU...
...COME WITH ME TO GIFU, TO MY PLACE?


...Eh...

AH, NO, THAT'S FINE.
MY FAMILY HAS BEEN TENDING THIS FORGE FOR GENERATIONS...
AND, UM... I STILL... HAVE A DREAM OF MAKING THIS THE BEST FORGE IN KYOTO...


WHAAAAT ...?!
NO, I CAN'T!

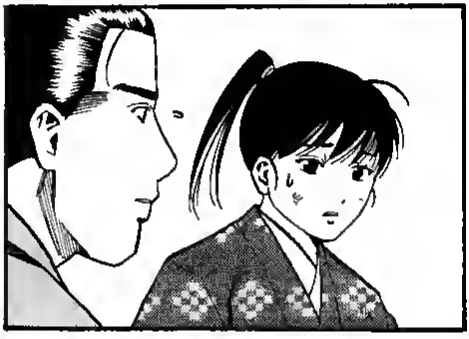
NATSU-DONO.
THIS IS AN ORDER FROM NOBU-NAGA-SAMA.

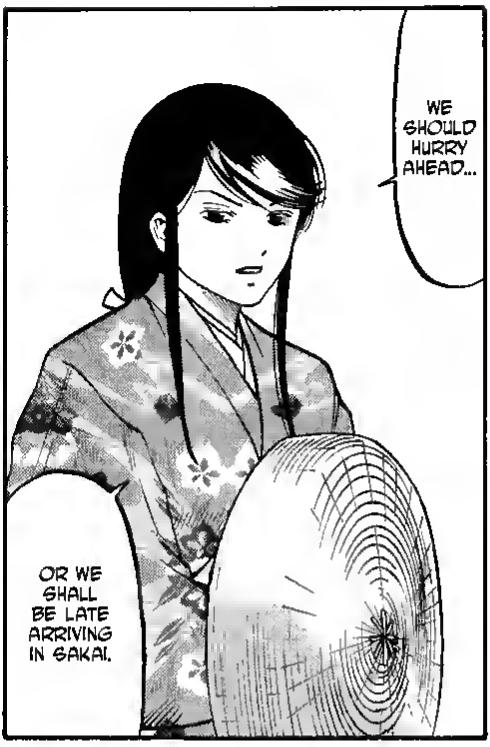
YOU WILL HAVE THE BEST RAW MATERIALS AND WILL BE EXPECTED TO MAKE NOTHING LESS THAN THE BEST QUALITY ITEMS. IT IS A RARE OPPOR-TUNITY.
NOBUNAGA-SAMA SAYS THAT HE HAS EVERYTHING YOU WILL NEED PREPARED.
INSTEAD OF AIMING TO BE THE BEST IN KYOTO, YOU SHOULD BE AIMING TO BE THE BEST IN JAPAN, IN GIFU.

EH?!
HE BELIEVES THAT THE MORE BLACKSMITHS WE CAN GATHER IN OUR CASTLE TOWN, THE BETTER.
SO HE SENT US TO BRING YOU, NATSU-DONO.

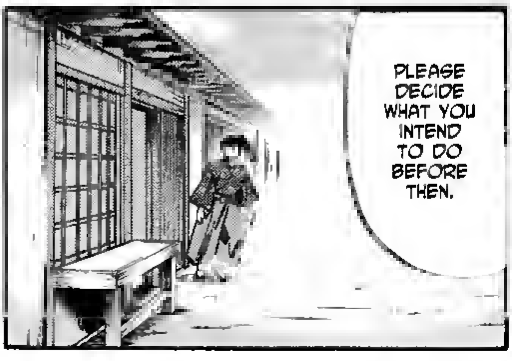
SFX: Hmm..
FOR A BLACKSMITH, BEING SUMMONED IS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH...
I BELIEVE THIS ORDER WAS THE LORD'S WAY OF SHOWING GOOD WILL TOWARDS THESE TWO, BUT...
SFX: Scratch
NATSU-SAN...
I SEE, YES, OF COURSE.
SO KEN WAS ASKING BECAUSE OF THE LORD'S ORDERS...
I SEE...
MORI-DONO!
WAIT, JUST NOW WAS MY...

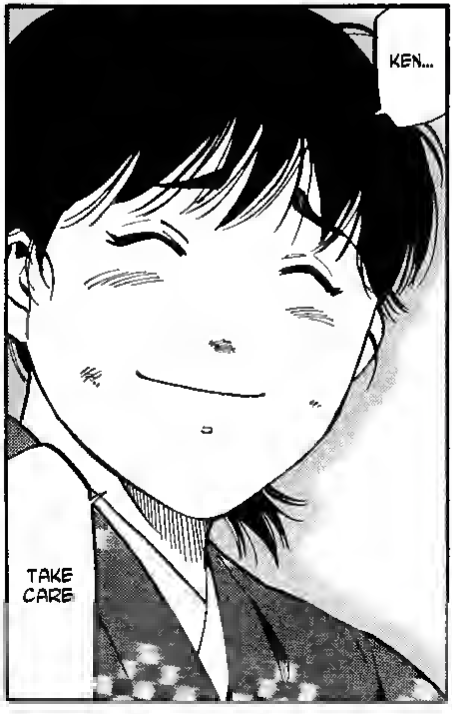
YES, YOU ARE QUITE RIGHT.




WE SHOULD HURRY AHEAD...
OR WE SHALL BE LATE ARRIVING IN SAKAI.

WE'LL STOP BY ON THE WAY BACK FROM SAKAI...

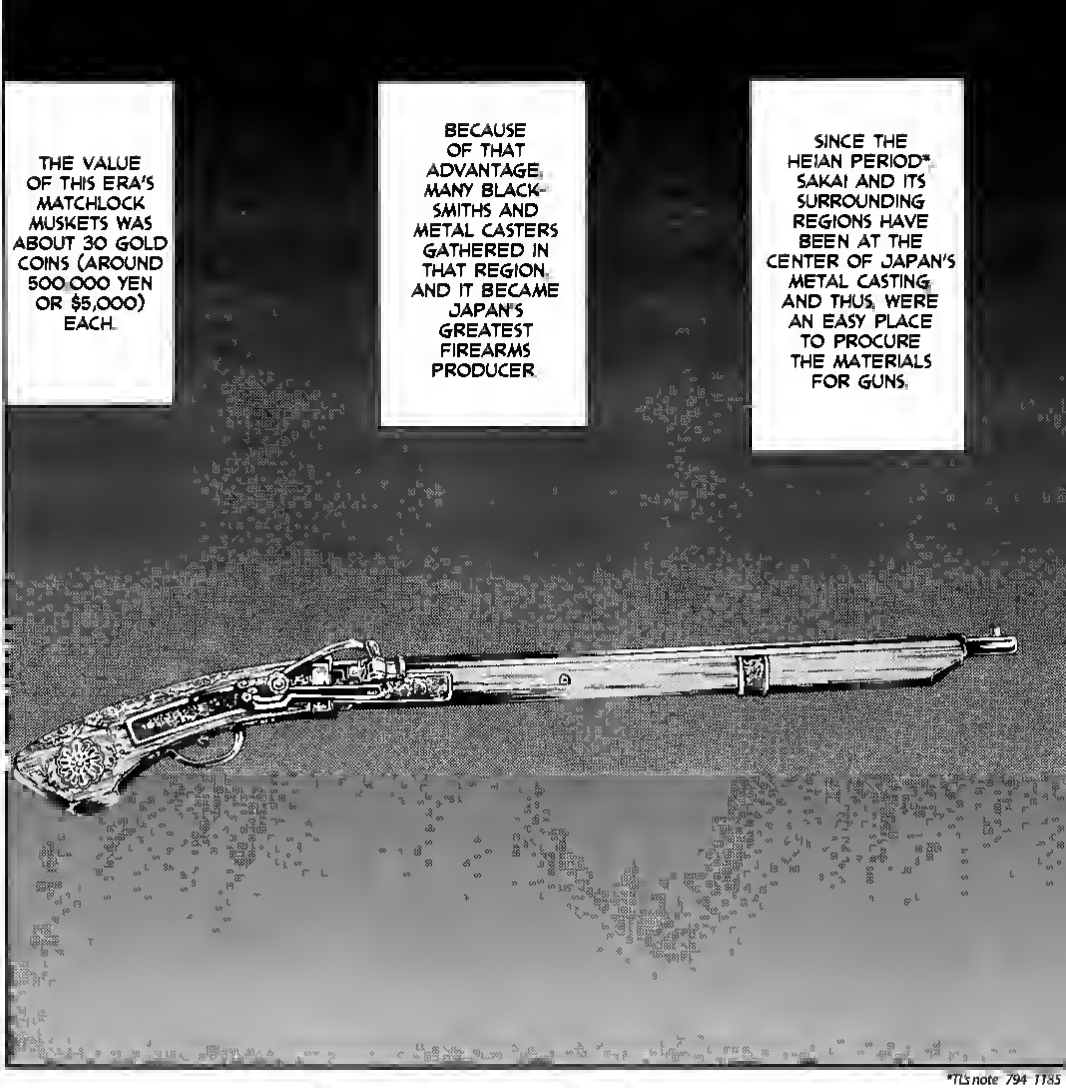

PLEASE DECIDE WHAT YOU INTEND TO DO BEFORE THEN.


KEN...
TAKE CARE

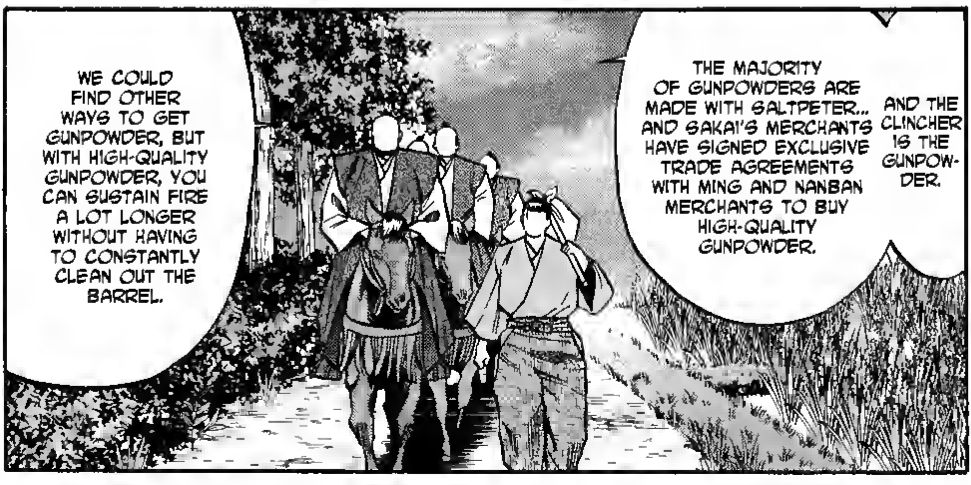
HAVE YOU BEEN TO SAKAI BEFORE, KAEDE-SAN?
SFX Glare
NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS!
キ!!
MUST'VE BEEN A SECRET MISSION...
IN THIS ERA, SAKAI WAS THE CENTRAL PORT OF TRADE WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD.
I'M SURE IT'S A VERY ROUGH PLACE FOR NINJAS ENGAGED IN INFORMATION GATHERING AND RECON-NAISSANCE.
KEN!
YES!
SORRY ABOUT THAT-- YOU DID NOT HAVE MUCH TIME TO CATCH UP WITH NATSU-DONO.

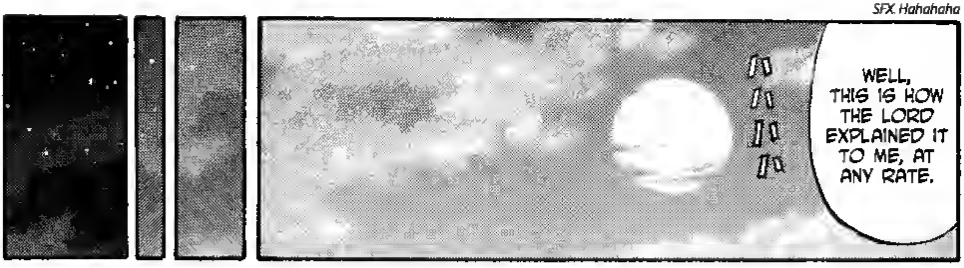
SOU-KYUU...
YOU MEAN IMAI SOU-KYUU...?
DO YOU KNOW HIM?
I SENT A MESSEN-GER AHEAD TO NOTIFY SOUKYUU-DONO THAT WE HAD LEFT...
SO IT WOULD NOT DO TO BE LATE.
NO, THAT'S OKAY.
IMAI-DONO IS ONE OF THE NAYASHUU.
JUST BY NAME...
AND THOSE MERCHANTS WHO RAN THE CITY WERE CALLED THE NAYASHUU.
THE NAYASHUU
DURING THIS ERA, SAKAI'S ADMINISTRATION WAS MANAGED BY A GUILD OF 36, WHO DETERMINED THE CITY'S ADMINISTRATIVE POLICIES....

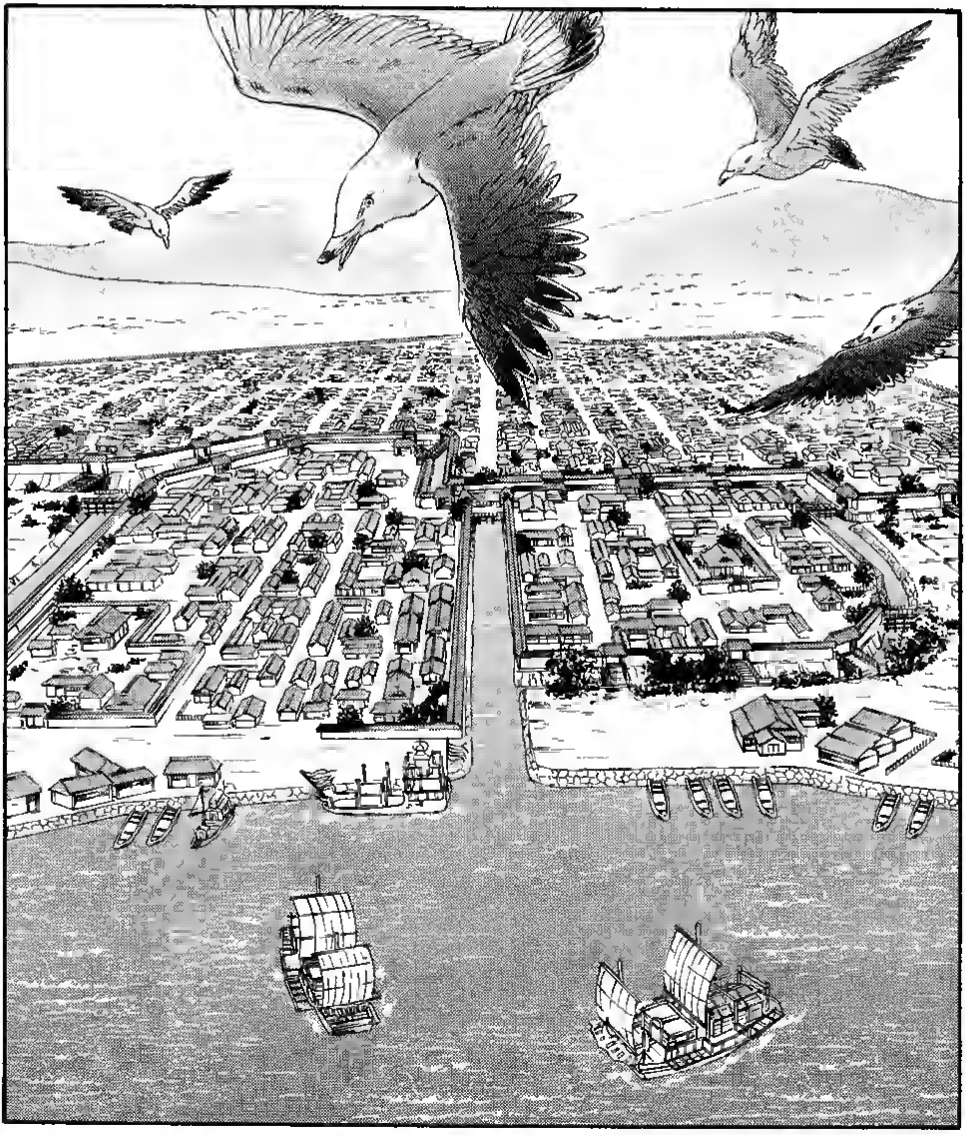
...
IN THAT CASE, WHY SAKAI...?
SO I WOULD LIKE TO CONCLUDE THIS MATTER WITH AS LITTLE FUSS AS POSSIBLE.
ACTUALLY, THERE WAS SOMETHING OF A DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LORD AND THOSE NAYAGHUU ONCE...
BUT IN SAKAI, THEY MAKE NEW FIREARMS EVERY DAY, WHETHER THERE ARE ORDERS OR NOT.
KUNITOMO MAKES FIREARMS ACCORDING TO THE ORDERS THEY RECEIVE...
BECAUSE OF THE DIFFERENCE IN QUALITY.
JUST NEAR GIFU, THERE'S A FIREARMS PRODUCTION CENTER CALLED KUNITOMO, ISN'T THERE?
SO IT'S BECAUSE SAKAI IS FINANCIALLY POWERFUL THAT THEY CAN AFFORD TO MAKE THEM WITHOUT GUARANTEED ORDERS.
THEY ARE QUITE FANTASTIC!
THE FIREARMS FROM SAKAI ARE ALWAYS MADE WITH GREAT CARE AND ARE EVEN DECORATED WITH SILVER ALONG THE BODY AND MUZZLE.

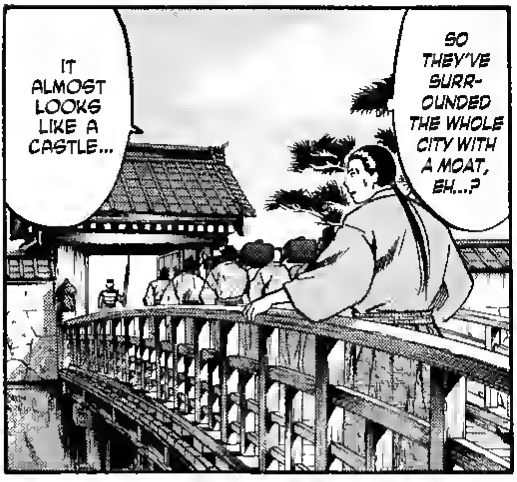

THE VALUE OF THIS ERA'S MATCHLOCK MUSKETS WAS ABOUT 30 GOLD COINS (AROUND 500,000 YEN OR $5,000) EACH.
BECAUSE OF THAT ADVANTAGE, MANY BLACK-SMITHS AND METAL CASTERS GATHERED IN THAT REGION, AND IT BECAME JAPAN'S GREATEST FIREARMS PRODUCER.
SINCE THE HEIAN PERIOD* SAKAI AND ITS SURROUNDING REGIONS HAVE BEEN AT THE CENTER OF JAPAN'S METAL CASTING, AND THUS, WERE AN EASY PLACE TO PROCURE THE MATERIALS FOR GUNS.

*TL's note: 794-1185

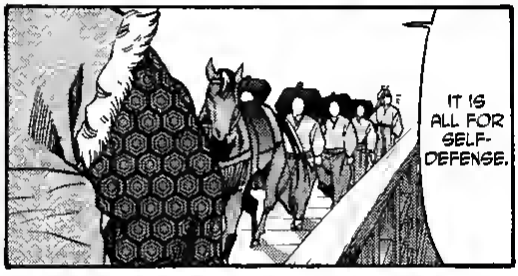

WE COULD FIND OTHER WAYS TO GET GUNPOWDER, BUT WITH HIGH-QUALITY GUNPOWDER, YOU CAN SUSTAIN FIRE A LOT LONGER WITHOUT HAVING TO CONSTANTLY CLEAN OUT THE BARREL.
THE MAJORITY OF GUNPOWDERS ARE MADE WITH SALTPETER... AND SAKAI'S MERCHANTS HAVE SIGNED EXCLUSIVE TRADE AGREEMENTS WITH MING AND NANBAN MERCHANTS TO BUY HIGH-QUALITY GUNPOWDER.
AND THE CLINCHER IS THE GUNPOW-DER.

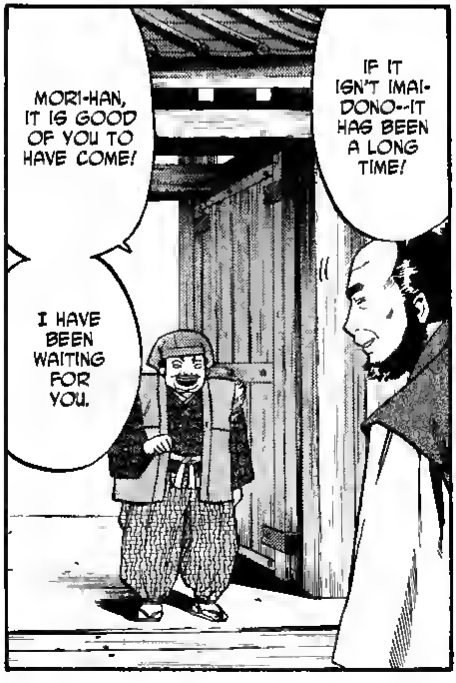

SFX Hahahaha
WELL, THIS IS HOW THE LORD EXPLAINED IT TO ME, AT ANY RATE.




IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE A CASTLE...
SO THEY'VE SURR-OUNDED THE WHOLE CITY WITH A MOAT, EH...?

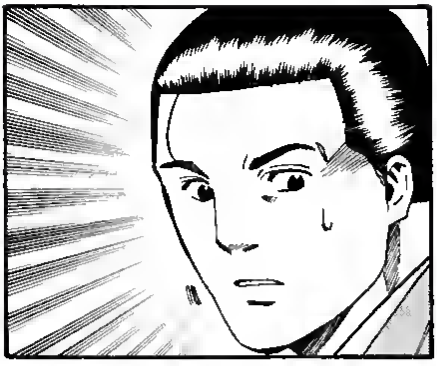
FROM HERE ON, WE ARE IN SAKAI.

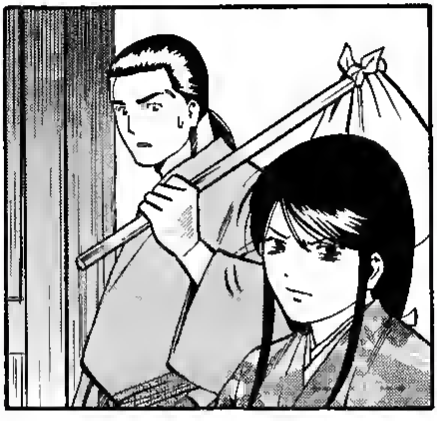

IT IS ALL FOR SELF-DEFENSE.


MORI-HAN, IT IS GOOD OF YOU TO HAVE COME!
IF IT ISN'T IMAI-DONO--IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME!
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.

AFTER ALL, SAKAI IS *FLUSH* WITH COIN FROM ALL ITS DEALINGS WITH THE NANBAN AND MING PEOPLE.

IMAI SOUKYUU
ONE OF THE NAYASHUU, HE IS REFERRED TO AS THE 'MERCHANT OF DEATH' IN THE CITY, SINCE HE DEALS IN LEATHER ARMOR, GUNPOWDER, FIRE-ARMS, AND OTHER SUCH ITEMS.
Oh!
WELL, NOW, PLEASE COME TO MY MANSION.
IT WOULD BE TERRIBLE TO KEEP YOU STANDING AS WE TALKED.
YOU ARE SUCH A *FINE* LADY, EVERY TIME I SEE YOU...
KAEDE, HOW GREAT THAT YOU CAME.
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU.



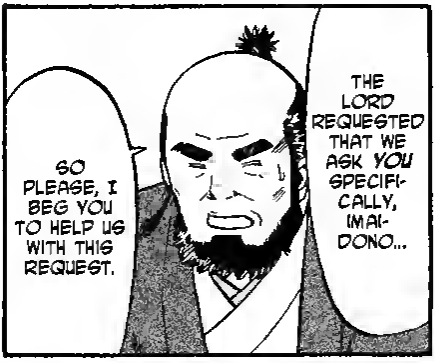


I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO BED-DING YOU TONIGHT.

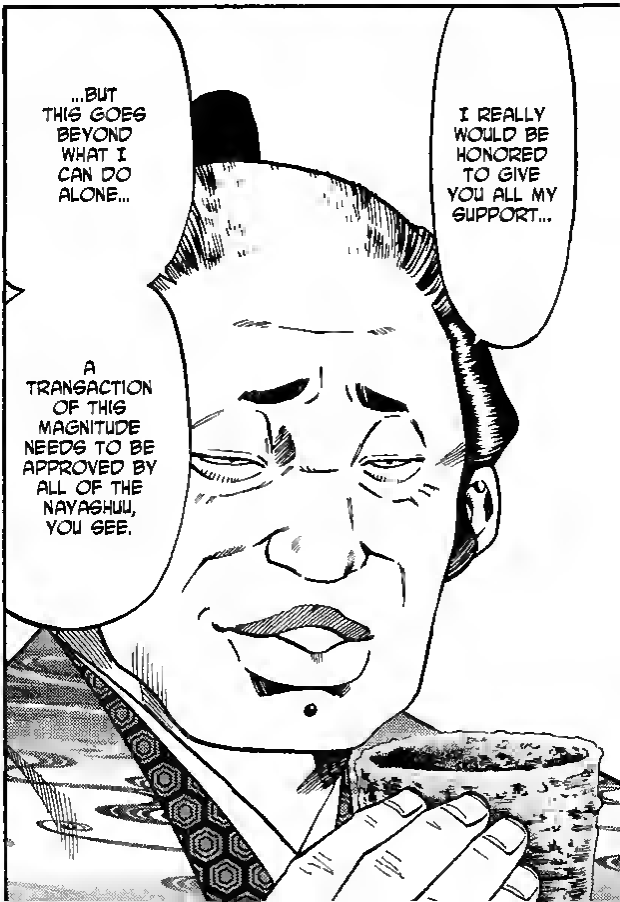
Hm--m?

SFX Splish Splish
SHE WAS USING SEXUAL CHARM AS A MEANS TO GATHER INFORMATION IN SAKAI...
I SEE... SO THAT'S THE REASON SHE WAS WEARING SUCH LADYLIKE CLOTHING...
EXCUSE ME, IS THERE SOMEONE NAMED KEN HERE..?
YES?
THE MASTER ASKED FOR KEN-SAMA TO SIT IN ON HIS CONVERSATION WITH MORI-SAMA.
EH?

AND SO, IN SHORT...
AT THE LORD'S BEHEST, WE HAVE COME TO BUY ALL THE FIREARMS AND GUNPOWDER IN SAKAI.

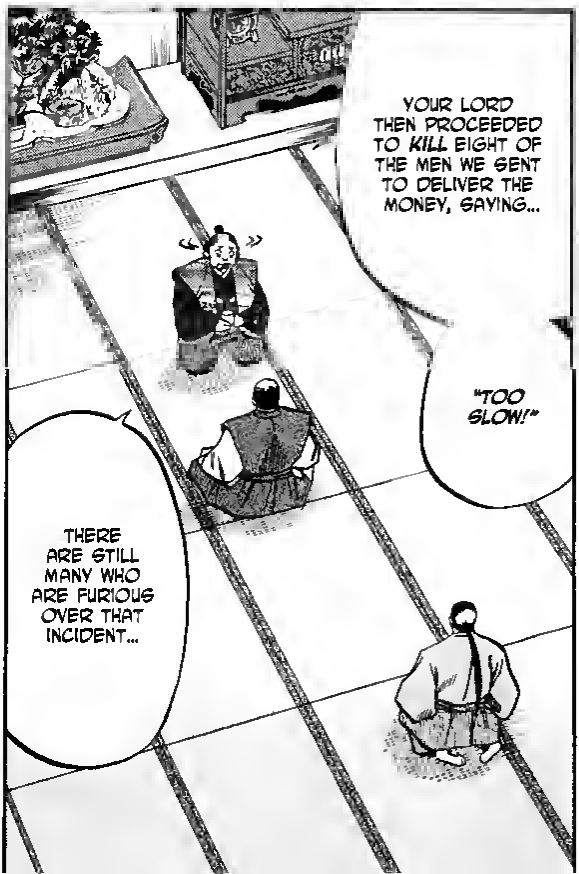

THE LORD REQUESTED THAT WE ASK YOU SPECIFICALLY, IMAI-DONO...
SO PLEASE, I BEG YOU TO HELP US WITH THIS REQUEST.

THAT IS EXACTLY IT.
IT IS THE LORD IN QUESTION WHO IS THE PROBLEM HERE.


I REALLY WOULD BE HONORED TO GIVE YOU ALL MY SUPPORT...
...BUT THIS GOES BEYOND WHAT I CAN DO ALONE...
A TRANSACTION OF THIS MAGNITUDE NEEDS TO BE APPROVED BY ALL OF THE NAYASHUU, YOU SEE.

11TH YEAR OF THE EIROKU
AFTER MOVING INTO THE CAPITAL, NOBUNAGA ORDERED SAKAI TO SEND 20,000 KANBUN AS WAR FUNDS.
SAKAI, PROTECTED BY THEIR PRIVATE MILITIA, INITIALLY REFUSED, BUT WERE LEFT ISOLATED IN FACE OF NOBUNAGA'S MILITARY MIGHT.
SOUKYUU, WHO FIRST GRASPED THE EXTENT OF NOBUNAGA'S POWER, CONVINCED THE NAYASHUU TO PAY THE MILITARY FUNDS.
Levy (Military Funds)
Sakai

20 000 Kanbun would be approximately 6 billion yen (60 million USD) in modern terms


YOUR LORD THEN PROCEEDED TO KILL EIGHT OF THE MEN WE SENT TO DELIVER THE MONEY, SAYING...
"TOO SLOW!"
THERE ARE STILL MANY WHO ARE FURIOUS OVER THAT INCIDENT...

I WANT YOU TO WIN OVER THE NAYASHUU WITH YOUR COOKING.
THERE ARE MANY AMONG THEM WHO SEARCH YEAR AFTER YEAR, LOOKING FOR THE MOST DELICIOUS FOODS THAT MONEY CAN BUY.
I HAVE HEARD THE RUMORS ABOUT YOU
YOU APPARENTLY MAKE QUITE REMARKABLE DISHES.
SFX: Tap
JUST FORGET WHAT I SAID.
Ah! BUT THAT WOULD BE FAR TOO RISKY FOR YOU.
AT THIS RATE, YOU MIGHT LOSE ALL THE TRUST YOUR LORD HAS PLACED IN YOU...
YOU MIGHT EVEN BE REPRIMANDED-- I AM SO SORRY FOR YOU...
BUT WHAT SHALL WE DO THEN?
I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO BE OF USE TO YOU, MORI-HAN.

Hoho?
EXCUSE ME...!
PLEASE LEAVE CONVINCING...
...THE NAYASHUU TO ME.
I ALREADY MENTIONED IT A MOMENT AGO, BUT THERE ARE MANY THERE WHO HOLD YOUR LORD IN CONTEMPT.
MOREOVER, IF ANYTHING WERE TO HAPPEN THAT DISPLEASED ANY OF THEM...
YOU MIGHT EVEN FIND YOURSELF STABBED IN AN ALLEY SOMEWHERE AT NIGHT.
PLEASE LET ME DO IT!
ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU ARE PREPARED FOR THAT?!

KEN...

...I STILL HAVE TO DO IT.
EVEN IF THE MOST PICKY GOURMETS IN THE JAPAN OF THIS ERA ARE MY OPPONENTS...

GOOD, GOOD. THEN IT IS SETTLED.
I SHALL SEND OUT SOME INVITATIONS SO THAT THE NAYAGHUU CAN CONVENE AS EARLY AS TOMORROW...

I DO NOT LIKE HIM AT ALL!
I DO NOT LIKE HIM...

WHAT AN EARNEST MAN...

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

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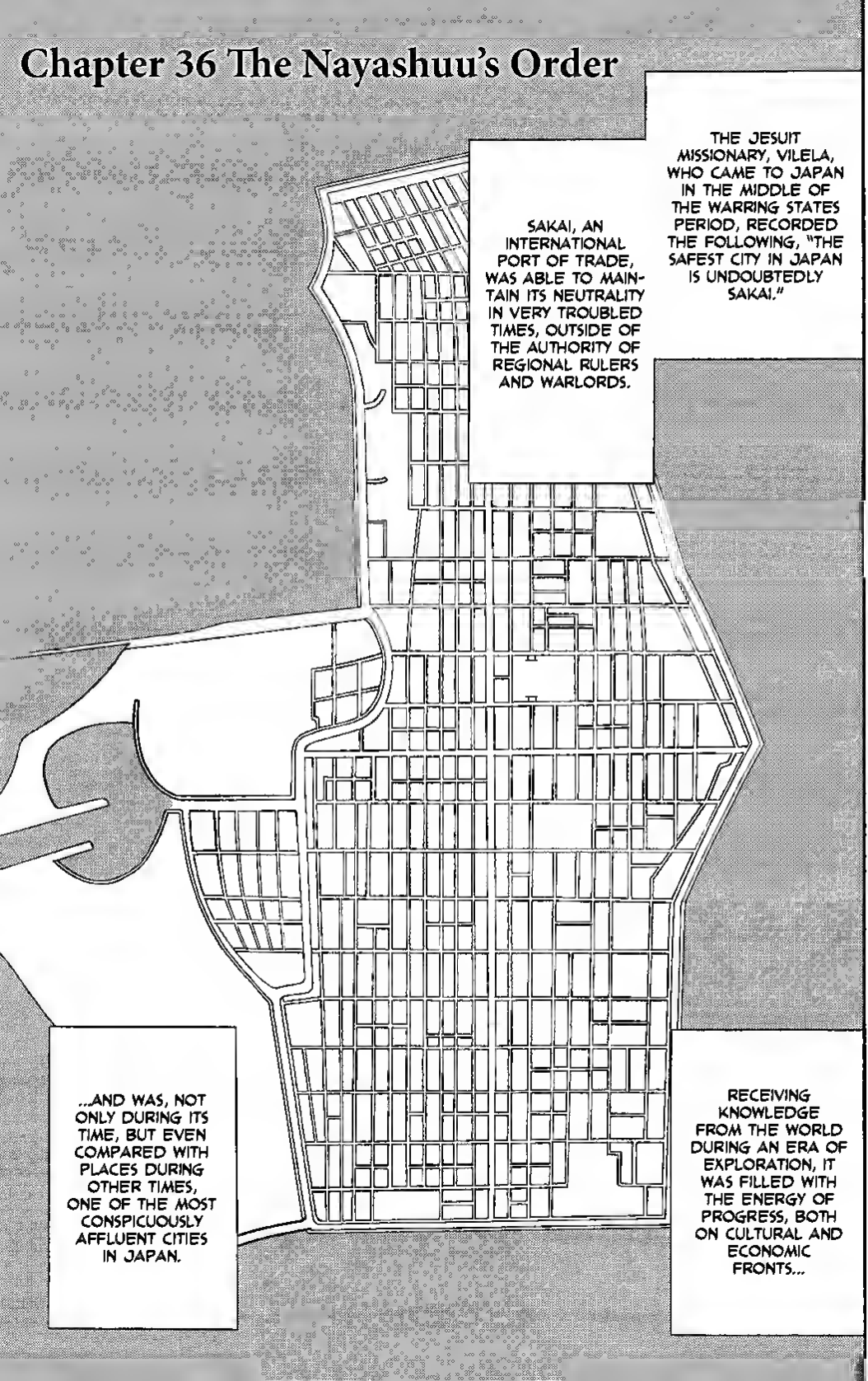
PROOFREADER: FALLACY

EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

Chapter 36 The Nayashuu's Order


SAKAI, AN INTERNATIONAL PORT OF TRADE, WAS ABLE TO MAINTAIN ITS NEUTRALITY IN VERY TROUBLED TIMES, OUTSIDE OF THE AUTHORITY OF REGIONAL RULERS AND WARLORDS.
THE JESUIT MISSIONARY, VILELA, WHO CAME TO JAPAN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WARRING STATES PERIOD, RECORDED THE FOLLOWING, "THE SAFEST CITY IN JAPAN IS UNDOUBTEDLY SAKAI."
...AND WAS, NOT ONLY DURING ITS TIME, BUT EVEN COMPARED WITH PLACES DURING OTHER TIMES, ONE OF THE MOST CONSPICUOUSLY AFFLUENT CITIES IN JAPAN.
RECEIVING KNOWLEDGE FROM THE WORLD DURING AN ERA OF EXPLORATION, IT WAS FILLED WITH THE ENERGY OF PROGRESS, BOTH ON CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC FRONTS...

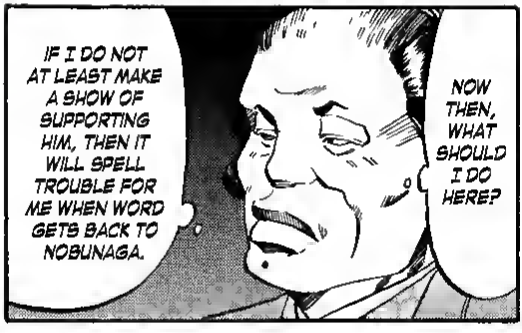
SAKAI..
I HEAR IT IS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL CITY.
I DID NOT THINK THAT MY LORD HUSBAND WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH BUT 20,000 KANBUN...
BUT IT SEEMS YOUR OBJECTIVE WAS NO LESS THAN THE CITY ITSELF.
KICHOU...
ONCE THIS ERA OF STRIFE AND WARFARE IS OVER...
...AN AGE WHERE MONEY MOVES THE WORLD WILL SURELY FOLLOW.
WE CANNOT LET SAKAI REMAIN THE EXCLUSIVE DOMAIN OF MERCHANTS.
THAT CITY *MUST* BE MADE INTO A PORT THAT BRINGS TOGETHER THE FARTHEST CORNERS OF THE WORLD IN JAPAN'S INTEREST.

APOLOGIES FOR DISTURBING YOU ALL AT SUCH A LATE HOUR.
BUT THERE IS BUSINESS FOR US ALL TO ATTEND TO.
Sakai Nayashuu
TSUDA SOUKYUU
WAIT, WAIT! THIS IS ABOUT LORD ODA'S RECENT MOVEMENTS, IS IT NOT?
THIS TIME, I HEAR HE WANTS TO BUY UP ALL OF SAKAI'S FIREARMS AND GUNPOWDER.

SFX Chatter Chatter Chatter
HE IS COMPLETELY UNREASONABLE AS ALWAYS!
SFX Slide
SFX Clang
WELL, WAIT A MOMENT. I HEAR THAT IMAI'S BROUGHT SOMETHING INTERESTING WITH HIM.
I AM KEN THE ODA CLAN'S HEAD CHEF.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION.

AS EXPECTED, THEY ARE ALL FOLLOWING A TWO-FACED AGENDA WHEN IT COMES TO NOBUNAGA...
SFX Chatter Chatter
SFX Chatter
ODA'S ...?!
ONLY THAT MAN HAS A DIFFERENT AURA... HE'S A BUDDHIST MONK...?
HE SAYS HE CAN MAKE ANYTHING?

GET OUT OF HERE!
WHO CARES ABOUT YOUR PROVINCIAL COOKING?!
WE HAVE EATEN THE MOST PRECIOUS DELICACIES FROM THE MING AND NANBAN MOUNTAINS AND SEAS...
HERE IN SAKAI WE HAVE THE BEST OF EVERY-THING.
YOU TAKE ME FOR A FOOL?! WHAT DOES THIS MONKEY FROM THE GIFU BOONIES THINK HE IS SAYING?

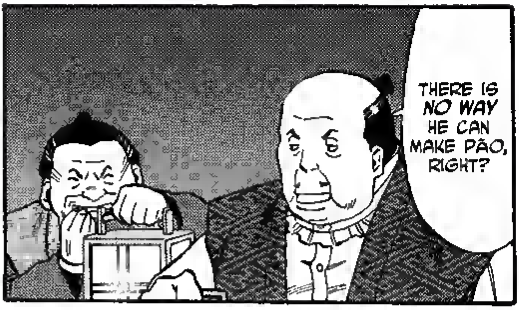

IF I DO NOT AT LEAST MAKE A SHOW OF SUPPORTING HIM, THEN IT WILL SPELL TROUBLE FOR ME WHEN WORD GETS BACK TO NOBUNAGA.
NOW THEN, WHAT SHOULD I DO HERE?

WELL, THIS WAS TO BE EXPECTED.
PLEASE WAIT! I WILL MAKE ANYTHING YOU ORDER.

PÃO!
I KNOW, EVERYONE, LISTEN, HOW ABOUT THAT THING?

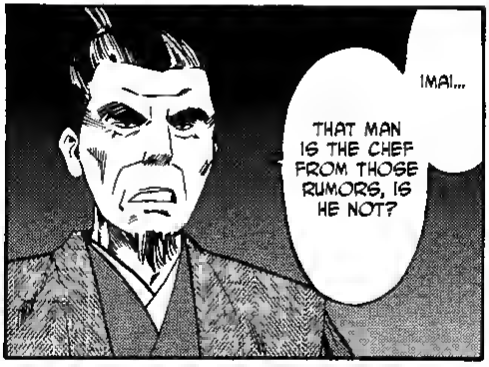
IT IS TRUE, THAT HAD A NOVEL TASTE.
OF LATE, I HAVE BEEN THINKING I WOULD LIKE TO TRY IT AGAIN...
PÃO...
AH, THAT IS THAT FOOD SIMILAR TO MANJU CAKE IS IT NOT?
WHY DO WE NOT ASK HIM TO MAKE THAT?
WHEN WAS IT THAT THE PADRES BROUGHT THAT FOR US?
...AND IN 1564, LUÍS FRÓIS, RECORDED THAT THEY HAD VISITED THE CITY OF SAKAI.
IN 1550, FRANCISCO XAVIER...
...FOR BREAD.
PÃO IS THE PORTUGUESE WORD...
ASKING HIM TO MAKE IT IS RIDICULOUS.
THAT MONKEY FROM THE BOONIES HAS SURELY NEVER SEEN OR *EVEN HEARD* OF SOMETHING LIKE BREAD.

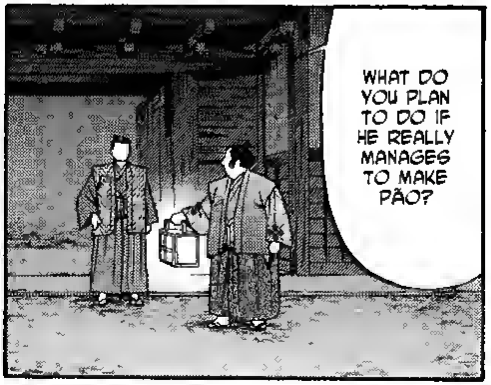
IF WE WANT TO SHOW HIM HOW UNREASONABLE HE IS BEING, WE MUST RESPOND IN KIND.
YES, BUT HE IS BEING UNREASONABLE AS WELL.
I CAN MAKE THE YEAST FOR MAKING THE BREAD RISE FROM SAKE BY-PRODUCTS... AND THERE SHOULD BE WHEAT TOO.
THEY SAY THAT YOU CAN GET A HOLD OF ALMOST ANYTHING IN SAKAI...
KEN, MAKE US PÃO!
MAKE IT SO THAT IT IS THE EXACT SAME AS THE ONE WE RECEIVED FROM THE FATHERS.
AL-RIGHT!
I UNDERSTAND! PLEASE GIVE ME A BIT OF TIME TO PREPARE.
I CAN DO IT!


THERE IS NO WAY HE CAN MAKE PÃO, RIGHT?

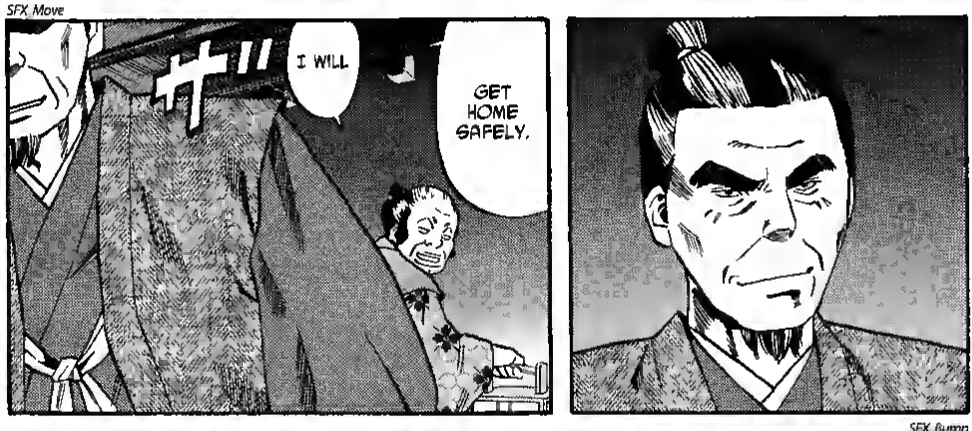
AND WITH THAT, SORRY TO HAVE DISTURBED YOU, TSUDA-HAN.

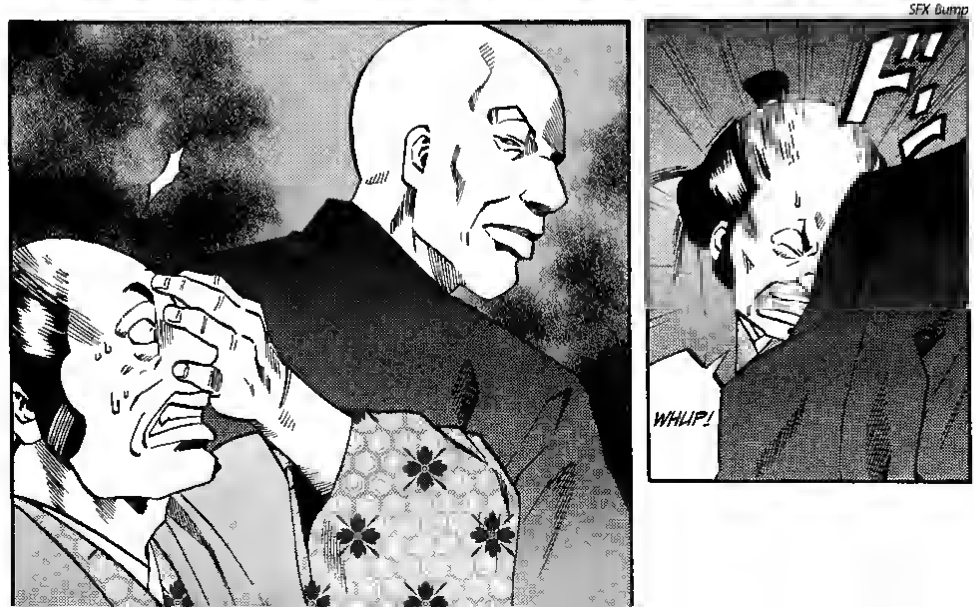
NO NEED TO WORRY ON THAT SCORE.
IN THIS KIND OF SITUATION, IF WE SAY TWO PLUS TWO EQUALS FIVE, THEN IT IS OVER FOR HIM.


IMAI...
THAT MAN IS THE CHEF FROM THOSE RUMORS, IS HE NOT?

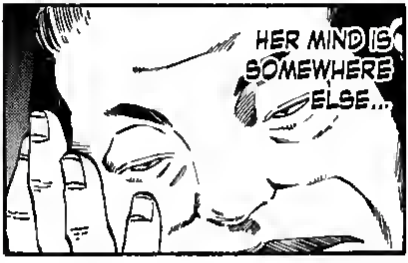

WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO IF HE REALLY MANAGES TO MAKE PÃO?

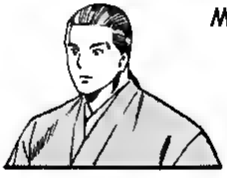
DO YOU NOT THINK THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE NOBUNAGA FEEL SOME PAIN?
SO WE CAN SHOW HIM THAT OUR SAKAI WILL NOT JUST DO WHATEVER HE WANTS.


SFX Move
I WILL GET HOME SAFELY.

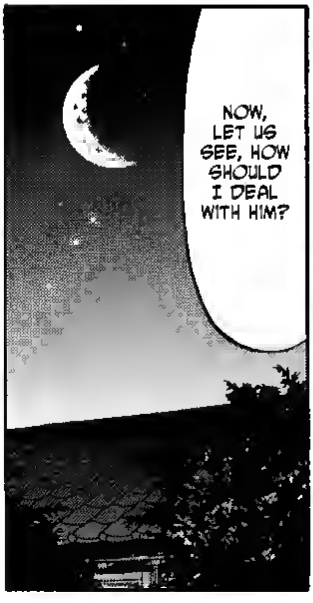

SFX Bump
WHIP!

SFX: Glare
ギョロリ
Um... ARE YOU GOING TO BE FINE WITHOUT A LAMP?
Ah, Aah... SORRY ABOUT THAT, SOUEKI-HAN...
Tch...
HOW WAS IT?


HER MIND IS SOMEWHERE ELSE...


THAT MAN, IS IT...?

HOW WAS I AFTER SO LONG, *huh*, KAEDE...?


NOW, LET US SEE, HOW SHOULD I DEAL WITH HIM?

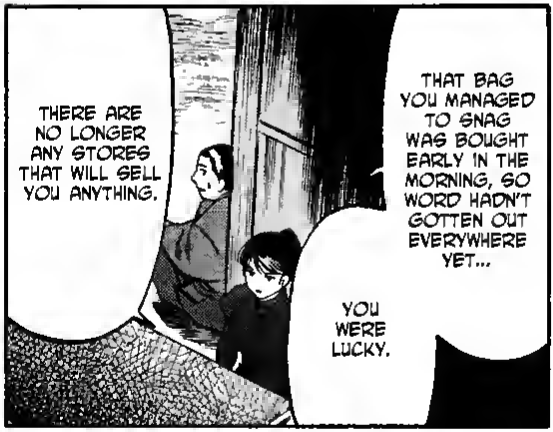
...I HEAR THIS PRICK WAS ACKNOWLEDGED FOR HIS COOKING SKILLS ALONE, WITHOUT EVEN A PENNY TO HIS NAME.
EVEN THOUGH I FINALLY FINAGLED MY WAY INTO NOBUNAGA'S INNER CIRCLE AFTER OFFERING HIM TWO PRICELESS TEA CEREMONY PIECES...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATRONAGE...
TO A BREWERY!
NEXT IS YEAST.
SO I FOUND WHEAT FLOUR...
AS EXPECTED.
...
WHAT?! YOU DON'T HAVE SAKE LEES?!

AH... WE DO NOT HAVE ANY.
EH...?!
I HAVE SOME, BUT I CANNOT SELL IT.
SO OFF WITH YOU!
GET OUT! YOU ARE GETTING IN THE WAY OF BUSINESS!
SFX Chirp Chirp Chirp...
SFX Gulp
MAYBE I DIDN'T FIND ALL THE SAKE BREWERIES. I'LL TRY ONCE MORE...
IT IS POINTLESS.
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?! THEY AREN'T SELLING SAKE LEES ANYWHERE...!

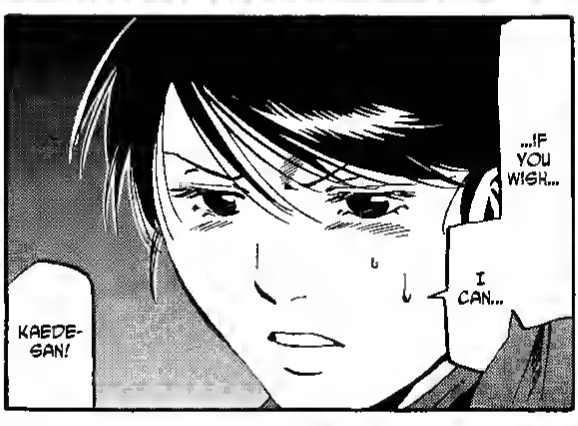
YOU WERE SET UP BY THE NAYA-SHUU...
THEY TOLD EVERYONE IN THE CITY NOT TO SELL YOU ANYTHING.

THERE ARE SENTRIES GUARDING EACH OF THE CITY'S GATES.
AND AT NIGHT THE GATES ARE CLOSED AND LOCKED, SO THERE IS NO WAY FOR YOU TO LEAVE.


THERE ARE NO LONGER ANY STORES THAT WILL SELL YOU ANYTHING.
THAT BAG YOU MANAGED TO SNAG WAS BOUGHT EARLY IN THE MORNING, SO WORD HADN'T GOTTEN OUT EVERYWHERE YET...
YOU WERE LUCKY.

I TOLD YOU, IT IS POINT-LESS.
THEN, I'VE TO GO OUTSIDE THE CITY...

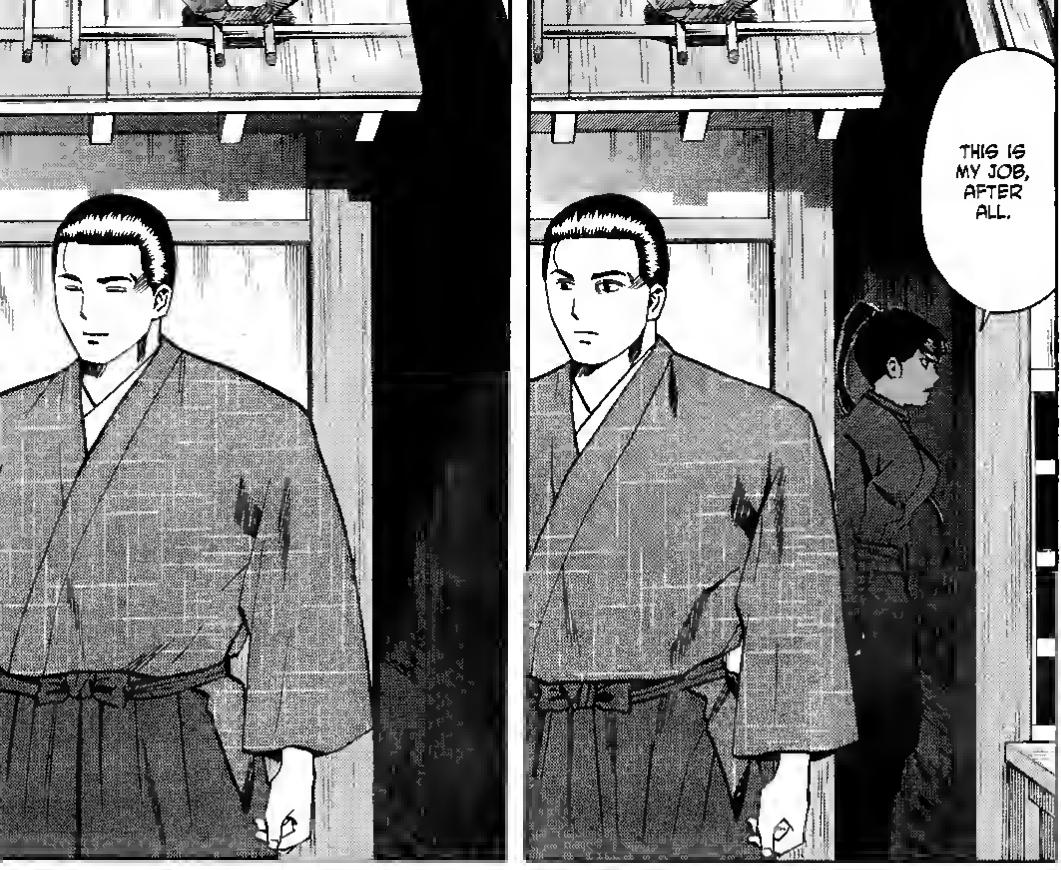
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING...
THE ONLY OPTION IS TO STEAL IT.


KAEDE-SAN!
I CAN...
...IF YOU WISH...

SFX Buzzz

THERE IS NO NEED FOR YOU TO THANK ME.

THANK YOU...
FOR ALL THE INFO YOU'VE GIVEN ME.


THIS IS MY JOB, AFTER ALL.

EVEN IF I CAN'T GO TO A BREWERY, I JUST NEED TO SEARCH THE REST OF THE CITY THOROUGHLY!
IF IT'S AN INGREDIENT THAT CAN BECOME ALCOHOL, THEN THERE SHOULD BE YEAST IN IT.

SFX: Run

IF I CAN'T OBTAIN SAKE LEES ANYWHERE, THEN I HAVE NO CHOICE OTHER THAN TO FIND A SUBSTITUTE.

CUSTOMER, WE ARE DRAPERS...
WHY WOULD WE HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
SFX Sprint Sprint
SOMETHING THAT CAN BE TURNED INTO ALCOHOL?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
SFX Sprint Sprint
SFX Sprint Sprint
Haa
Haa
Haa

Hehe!
HEY, THIS IS IMAI-SAN'S GUY...
HEY... EXCUSE ME, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING LIKE SAKE LEES...? I'M LOOKING FOR SOMETHING THAT CAN BE TURNED INTO ALCOHOL...
SFX: Plop
LOOKIE HERE, IF YOU WANT A FISH HALF EATEN BY A SHARK, I'LL GIVE YOU THIS.
BUT TO STEAL...
THERE'S NO CHOICE...
SFX: Perk
SFX: Slap
I THINK THERE'S A RUBBISH BIN OVER THIS WAY.

SFX Dig Dig Dig Dig
SFX Dig Dig Dig Dig
THIS SMELL... IS...
IM...
IMPOS-SIBLE...!

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

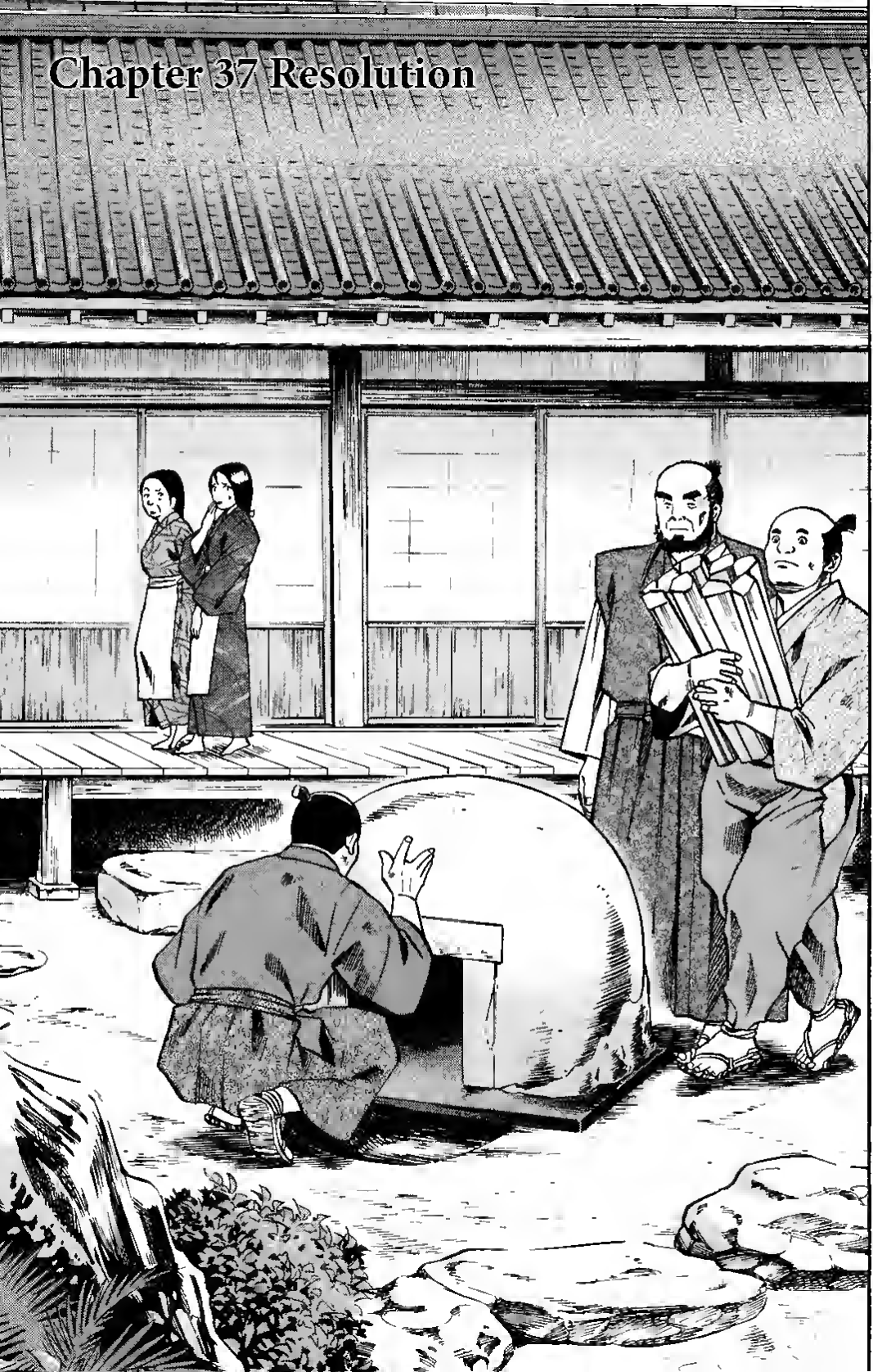
TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

PROOFREADER: FALLACY

EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

Chapter 37 Resolution

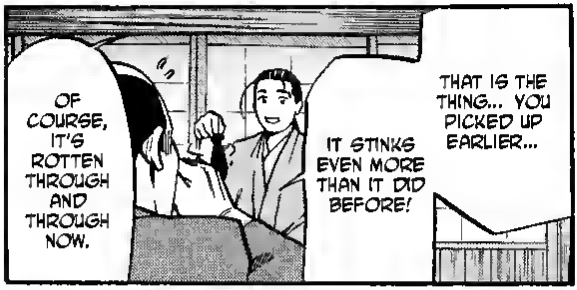


IT HAS ALREADY BEEN THREE DAYS SINCE KEN, WHO IS AT THE CENTER OF THIS...
...SHUT HIMSELF INSIDE HIS ROOM AFTER PICKING UP A PITCH BLACK PIECE OF GARBAGE...
BUT IS THIS REALLY OKAY, MORI-DONO?
THIS IS THE "STONE KILN" THAT KEN REQUESTED...
I HEAR THAT HE CANNOT GET ANY INGREDIENTS IN TOWN...
I WONDER IF HE IS SULKING IN HIS ROOM.
ARE YOU OKAY?!
WHAT IS WRONG, KEN, UP TILL NOW...
AH...

SORRY TO BOTHER YOU, BUT PLEASE BURY THE STONE KILN TO MAKE SURE THERE'RE NO DRAFTS.
WE NEED TO HEAT THE KILN UP CONSIDERABLY AND USE THAT ENERGY TO COOK THE BREAD.
...
SFX. Flip
KEN...
YOU NEED NOT OVEREXERT YOURSELF.
I'LL GET READY TOO.
THIS IS NOW MY BATTLE.
I DON'T FEEL LIKE ANYTHING WAS FOISTED ONTO ME.
I HAVE NO INTENTION OF FOISTING THAT DUTY ONTO YOU.
IT WAS ORIGINALLY *MY DUTY* TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE NAYASHUU, AFTER ALL.
MORI-DONO...

RIGHT HERE!
YUCK!

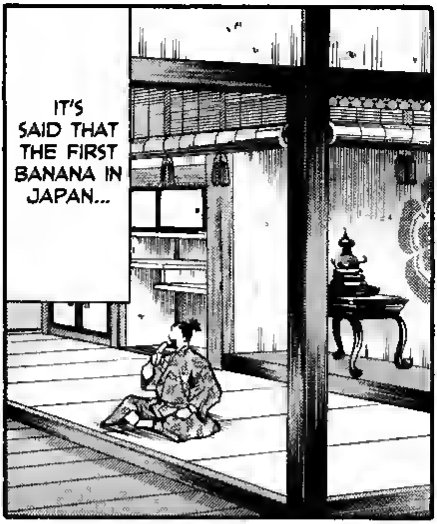
AND I'VE ALREADY PREPARED MY WEAPONS.


THAT IS THE THING... YOU PICKED UP EARLIER...
IT STINKS EVEN MORE THAN IT DID BEFORE!
OF COURSE, IT'S ROTTEN THROUGH AND THROUGH NOW.

THIS IS A NANBAN FRUIT CALLED THE BANANA.

I'M SURPRISED TO SEE A BANANA IN THIS ERA.
BUT STILL...

ORIGINALLY, THE SKIN WAS YELLOW, BUT DUE TO THE HEAT, IT'S TURNED BLACK...
IT WAS CARRIED HERE ACROSS THE MING LANDS, ALL THE WAY FROM SOUTH-EAST ASIA, AND THEN, FIGURING IT WAS ROTTEN, SOMEONE THREW IT OUT.



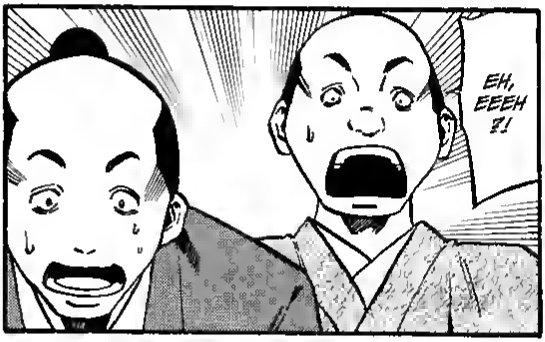
SFX: Munch Munch

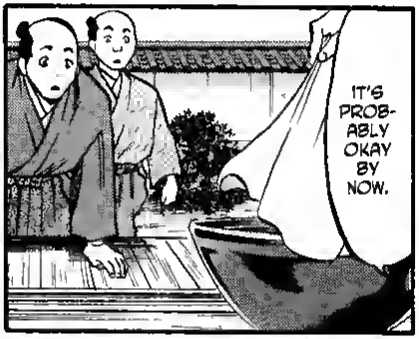
SO I FOUND A FEW BANANAS THAT WERE STILL FINE, CRUSHED THEM, PUT THEM IN WATER, AND AFTER THREE DAYS, MADE SOME.
THE BANANA FERMENTS VERY EASILY, AND IN A PLACE CALLED AFRICA, THEY MAKE ALCOHOL FROM IT.

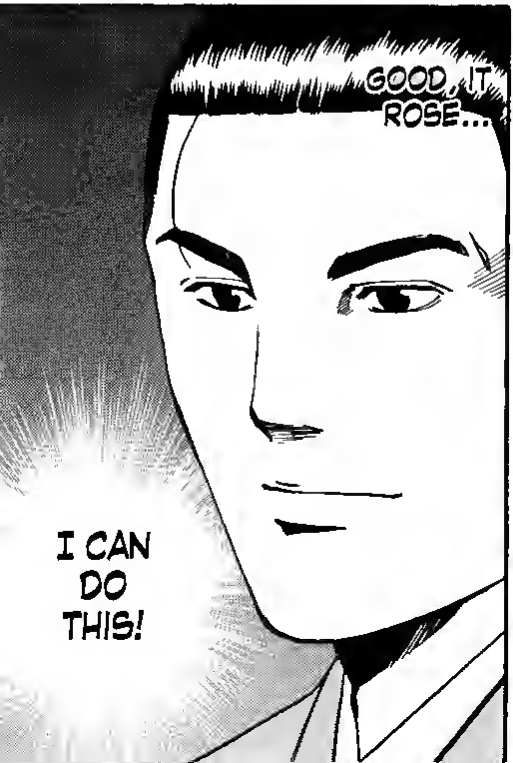
SFX Tighten
FIRST, WE'LL PUT THE FLOUR AND BANANA WATER IN A BOWL.
NOW THEN, I'LL USE THE WHEAT FLOUR AND YEAST TO MAKE PÃO.
SFX Squeeze Squeeze
SFX Squeeze Squeeze Squeeze
SFX Squeeze
THEN KNEAD IT.
SFX Roll

SFX: Chirrp Chirrp Chirrp

THEN WE'LL COVER THIS DOUGH WITH A CLOTH AND LET IT RISE FOR A BIT.
WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT A WHILE.

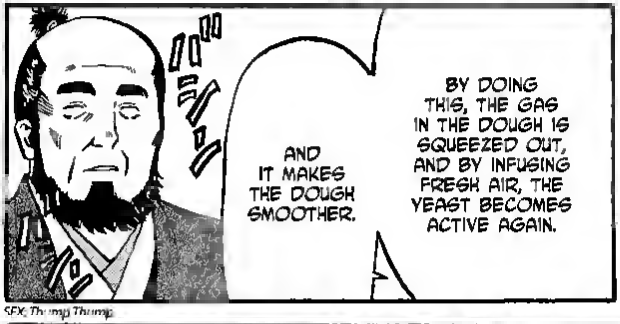

EH, EEEH ?!


IT'S PROBABLY OKAY BY NOW.

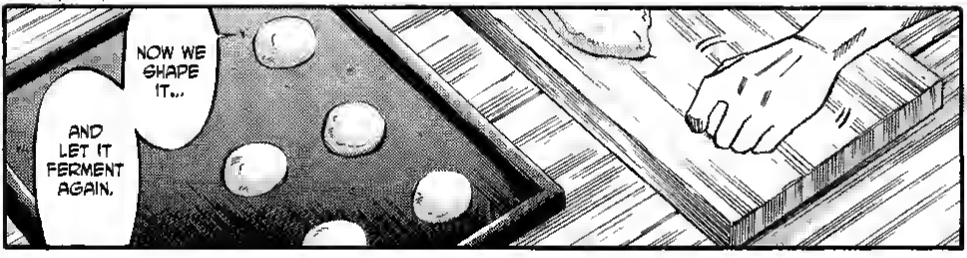

GOOD, IT ROSE...
I CAN DO THIS!

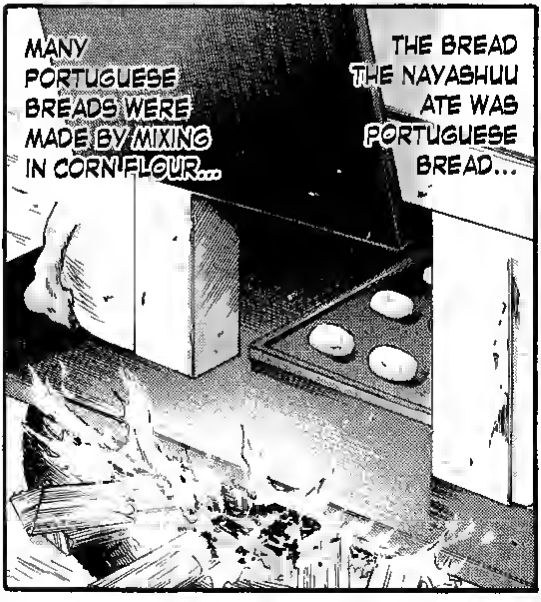
IT IS SO MUCH BIGGER!
IT IS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE!

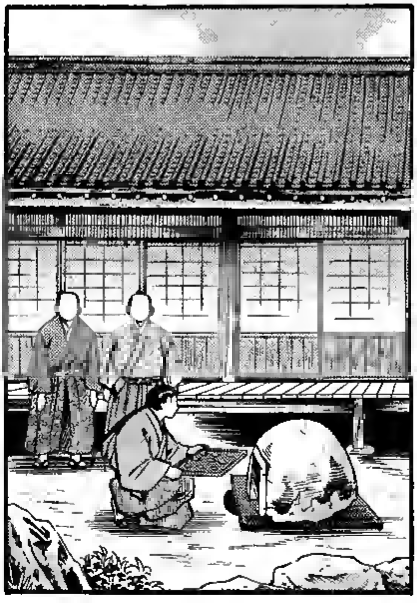
SFX Thump


AND IT MAKES THE DOUGH SMOOTHER.
BY DOING THIS, THE GAS IN THE DOUGH IS SQUEEZED OUT, AND BY INFUSING FRESH AIR, THE YEAST BECOMES ACTIVE AGAIN.

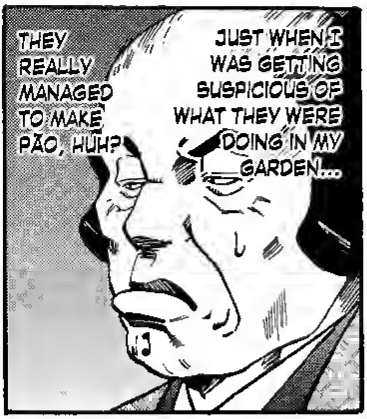
SFX Thump Thump





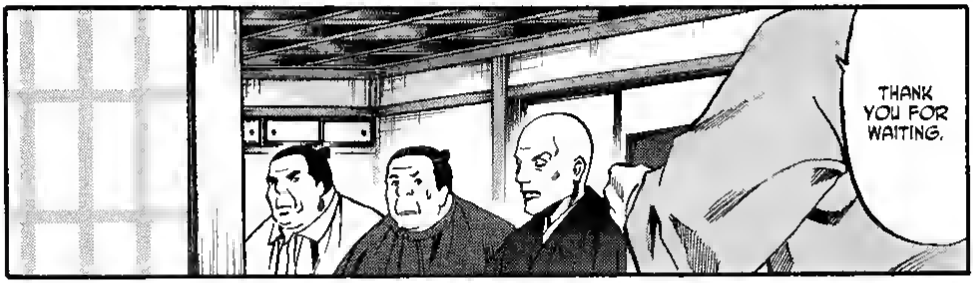


I'LL BET ON THIS!
CORN, JUST LIKE BANANA, HAS THE SAME ELEMENT OF SWEETNESS.
THE REASON WE HAVE ALL GATHERED TODAY...
...IS BECAUSE OF THIS CLAIM THAT PÃO WAS MADE.

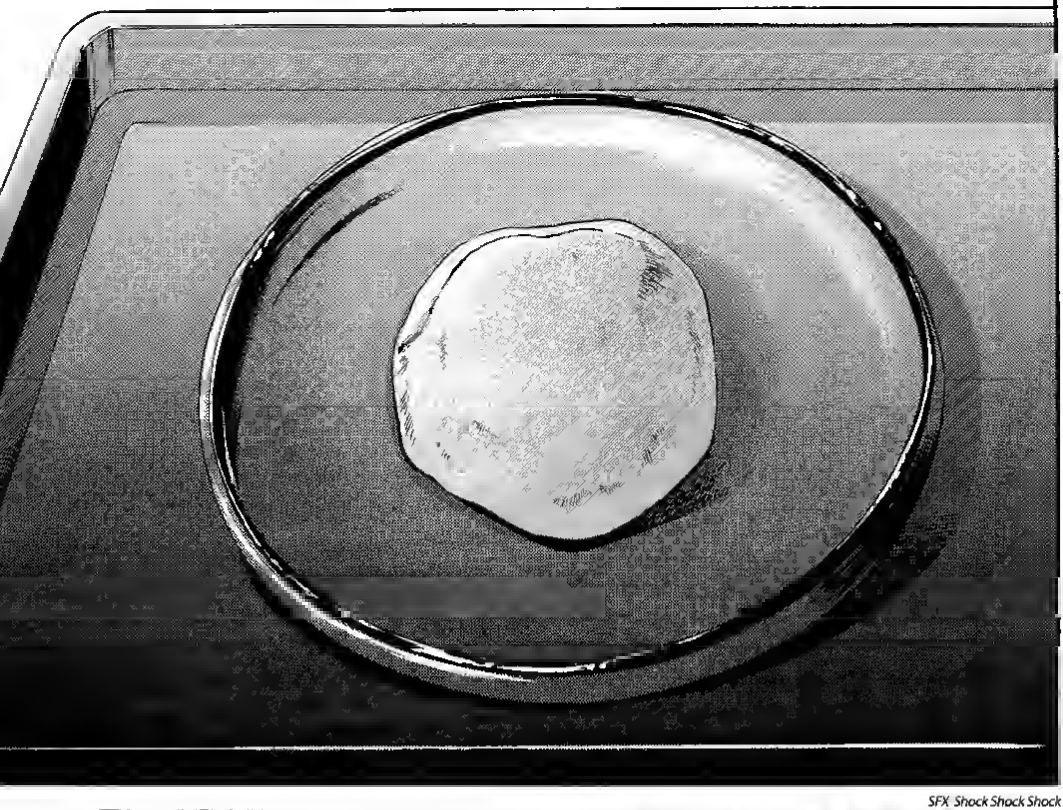

THEY REALLY MANAGED TO MAKE PÃO, HUH?
JUST WHEN I WAS GETTING SUSPICIOUS OF WHAT THEY WERE DOING IN MY GARDEN...

SFX Chatter Chatter

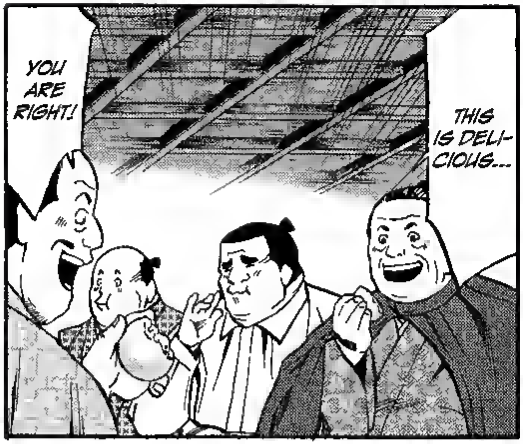
HE MADE PÃO...?!


SFX Chatter Chatter
THANK YOU FOR WAITING.

WOAH!



SFX: Shock Shock Shock


YOU ARE RIGHT!
THIS IS DELI-CIOUS...

CAN I GET SEC-ONDS ?!
ME TOO!

SO FLUFFY...

THIS IS NOT THE SAME AS WHAT WE RECEIVED FROM THE PADRES.

SFX Phew
I'M GLAD IT WENT WELL...
BUT...

EH...?!
THOUGH, THIS ONE MIGHT EVEN BE BETTER...

SFX Uphu

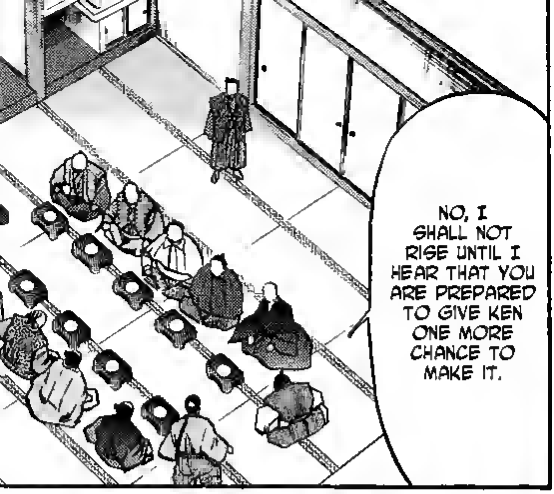
SFX Bufufu
THAT IS THE WAY...
WHAT IS THIS? HE IS DESTROYING HIS OWN CREDIBILITY!

DIFFE-RENT?! IT CAN'T BE...
KEN...

SFX Rise
WITH THIS, OUR TALKS ARE OVER.
GO BACK TO GIFU.

THIS IS INDEED DIFFERENT.

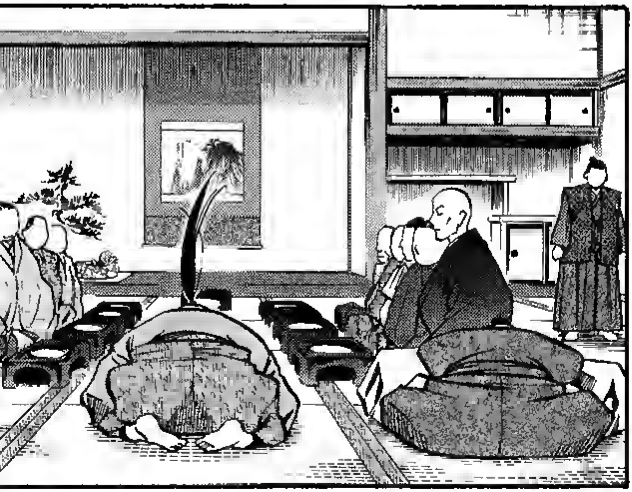
PLEASE HEAR HIM OUT.
ONCE MORE... JUST GIVE ME ONE MORE CHANCE ...
WE ARE BUSY PEOPLE TOO.
WA- WAIT A MOM- ENT!
SFX Thump
ろ。
WILL YOU NOT GIVE THIS MAN ONE MORE CHANCE TO MEET YOUR EXPECTATIONS?
I IMPLORE YOU AS WELL.

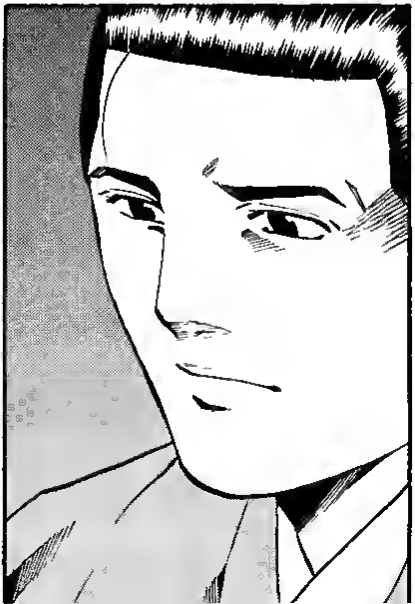

NO, I SHALL NOT RISE UNTIL I HEAR THAT YOU ARE PREPARED TO GIVE KEN ONE MORE CHANCE TO MAKE IT.

IF YOU DO THAT TOO, YOU PUT ME IN A TOUGH SPOT... PLEASE RAISE YOUR HEAD.
MORI-HAN...

THIS IS NOT YOUR ALONE.
KEN...

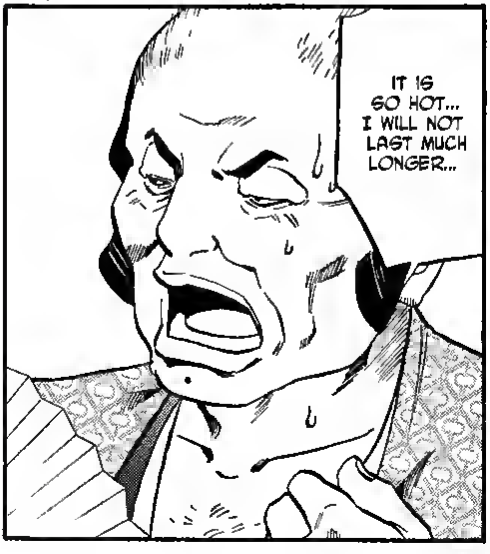
MORI-DONO...





SFX Thump

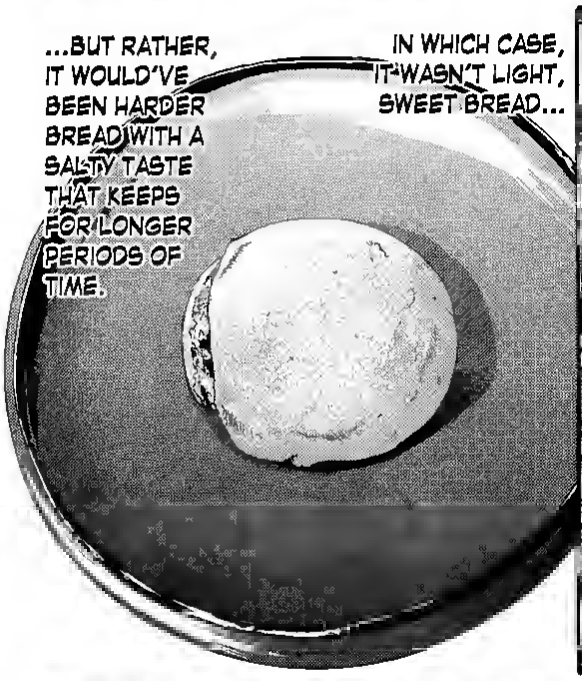
SFX Flap



WHAT IS IT... WHAT WAS DIFFERENT?!
THEY SAID THAT THE TASTE WAS DIFFERENT.
SFX Chmp Chmp
I WILL NOT LAST MUCH LONGER.
IT IS SO HOT...
SFX Roll
SFX Roll Drip
TH-THAT'S IT!

THIS IS...
MUH?!

SFX: Shock

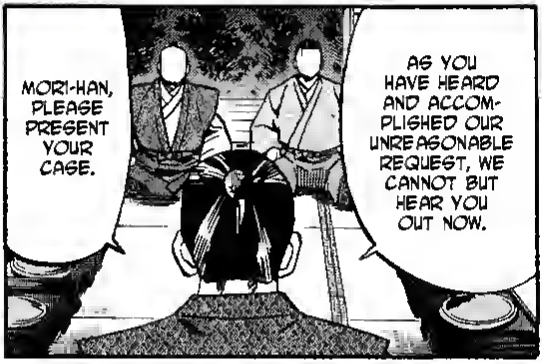

...BUT RATHER, IT WOULD'VE BEEN HARDER BREAD WITH A SALTY TASTE THAT KEEPS FOR LONGER PERIODS OF TIME.
IN WHICH CASE, IT WASN'T LIGHT, SWEET BREAD...

THEIR PÃO WAS PROBABLY BAKED BEFORE THEY LEFT.
THE MISSIONARY PRIESTS CAME FROM PORTUGAL IN LONG JOURNEYS BY BOAT.

I CANNOT LET THEM SAY ANY-THING...
THIS IS BAD...

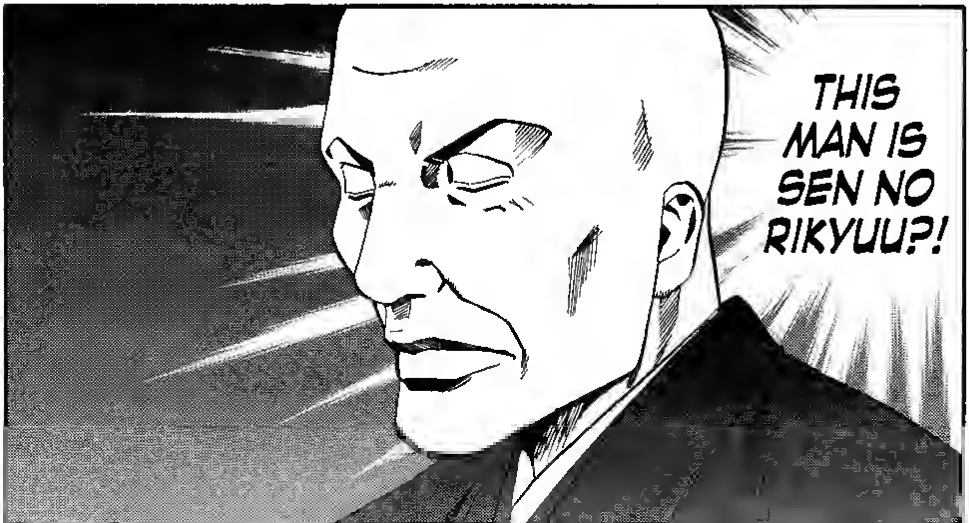
IT IS PRACTICALLY THE SAME AS THE PÃO WE RECEIVED FROM THE PADRES!
IT IS THE SAME...!

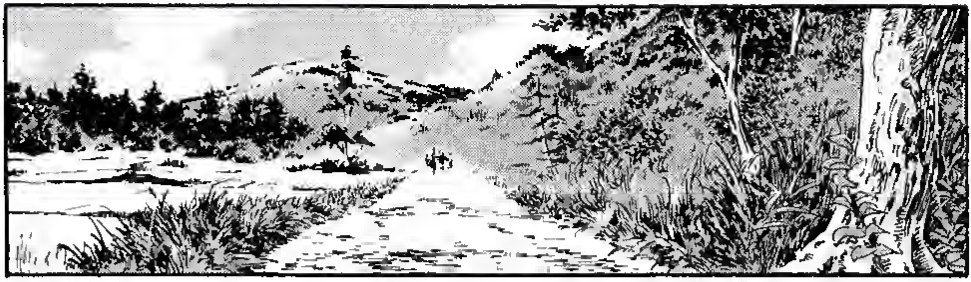
...WELL... Ahem...
THIS IS ALSO GOOD, BUT IT IS STILL...
IT IS THE SAME.
I HAVE HEARD THAT IN THE NANBAN LANDS, PÃO SYMBOLIZES THE FLESH OF THEIR GOD...
IF I MAY ADD TO THAT, PÃO IS TO THEM WHAT RICE IS TO US...
A HOLY FOOD.
DIS-HONESTY WOULD BE BLASPHE-MOUS
AND THIS IS THE SAME AS THE PÃO WE RECEIVED FROM THE PADRES.


AS YOU HAVE HEARD AND ACCOMPLISHED OUR UNREASONABLE REQUEST, WE CANNOT BUT HEAR YOU OUT NOW.
MORI-HAN, PLEASE PRESENT YOUR CASE.

IT IS AS SEN SAYS.
IT HAS THE SAME TASTE.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
SEN ...?!

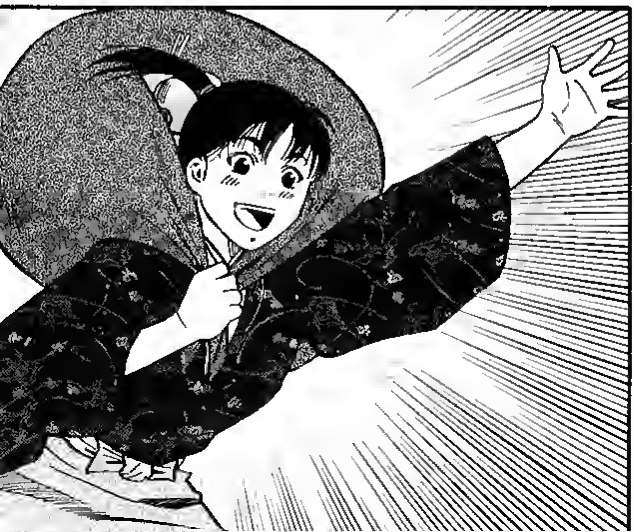

THIS MAN IS SEN NO RIKYUU?!



SO I CAN MAKE PÃO EASILY FROM NOW ON.
ACTUALLY, I GOT THE SEEDS FOR BREAD.

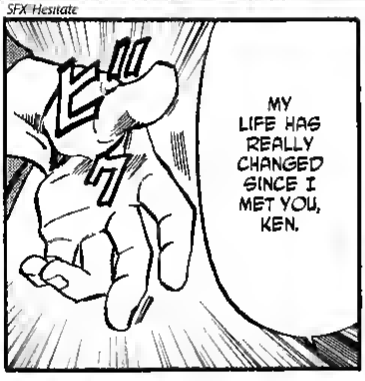
WE WERE ABLE TO COMPLETE OUR MISSION, BUT YOU DID NOT GET WHAT YOU NEEDED.

AND THERE WAS ONE MORE THING, I SUPPOSE.



CAN I STAY BY YOUR SIDE...
KEN?
SO... Um...

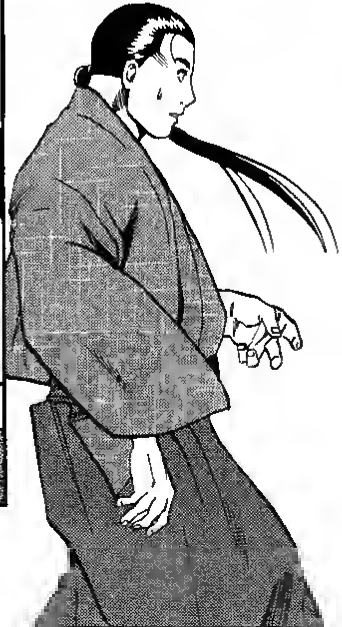
THIS IS THE ONLY OPPORTUNITY TO FORGE SWORDS WITH THE HIGHEST GRADE OF MATERIAL...
AND IT IS NOT AS IF I CAN IGNORE ORDERS FROM LORD ODA ANYWAY.


SFX: Hesitate
MY LIFE HAS REALLY CHANGED SINCE I MET YOU, KEN.

SFX: Raise
BUT, HOW DO I PUT IT...?

NATSU-SAN...

KEN...?



DO I REALLY HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT? WHETHER HISTORY CHANGES OR NOT...
AH... SORRY.
...IN THIS AGE...
SO I SHOULD JUST LIVE MY LIFE...
I CAN'T THINK OF ANY REASON I'D NEED TO RETURN TO THE HEISEI PERIOD ANYWAY.
YOU DO NOT HAVE TO! I AM PRETTY STRONG, YOU KNOW?
I'LL CARRY THAT BAG FOR YOU.
...TOGETHER WITH THESE PEOPLE...

A CHEF LIKE THAT WOULD BE GREAT FOR SAKAI TOO.
BUT HE WAS QUITE A MAN, THAT KEN.
SFX Klong
YOU REALLY MEAN IT? WHERE IS THIS PERSON?
A PERSON LIKE KEN, WHOSE COOKING SEEMS SO MAGNIFICENT THAT YOU WOULD NOT THINK IT WAS OF THIS WORLD.
THERE IS ONE OTHER PERSON WHO COMES TO MIND.
AT ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE.

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

PROOFREADER: FALLACY

EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

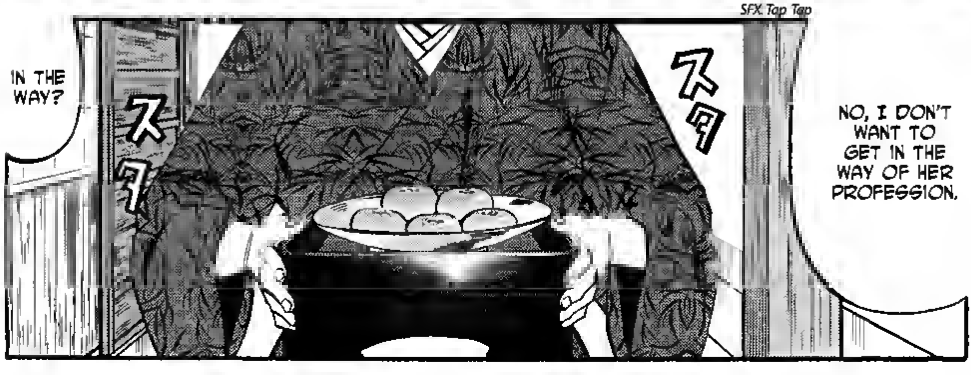
SFX: Clack

Chapter 38 Yoshinari's Oomiyari Spear

WELL DONE, KEN.
FIREARMS REALLY DO NEED TO BE OBTAINED IN SAKAI.

ARE YOU LIVING WITH NATSU NOW?

NO, IT WAS ALL THANKS TO MORI-SAMA'S STRENGTH.


SFX: Tap Tap
IN THE WAY?
NO, I DON'T WANT TO GET IN THE WAY OF HER PROFESSION.

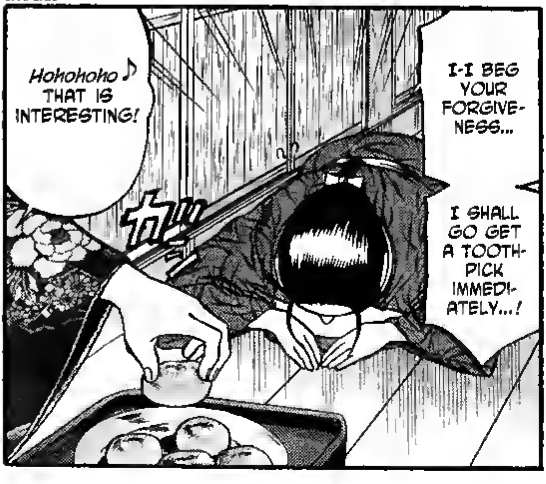
NOU-HIME-SAMA, THIS IS 'ANPÃO' THAT KEN HAS MADE.
THE GODDESS OF THE FORGE IS A JEALOUS ONE...
IF SHE BELIEVES THAT, THEN I WANT TO RESPECT HER FEELINGS.

WHERE IS THE TOOTH-PICK ...?
YOU ARE A PRETTY DETERMINED MAN, ARE YOU NOT?

YOU EXPECT ME... TO EAT WITH MY HANDS LIKE SOME VULGAR COMMONER...?!

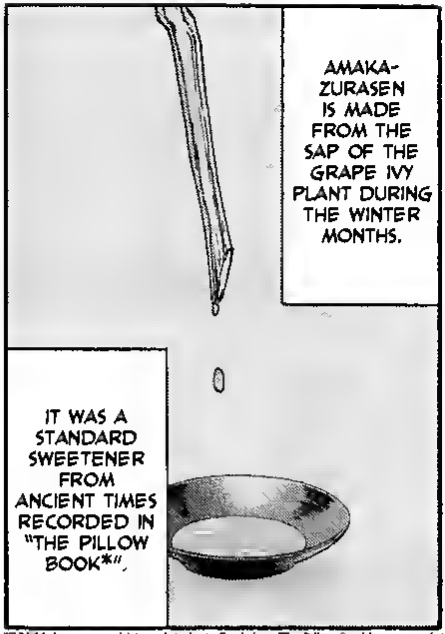
MY LADY... KEN SAID THAT PÃO SHOULD BE EATEN WITH THE HANDS, SO...

SFX: Grab

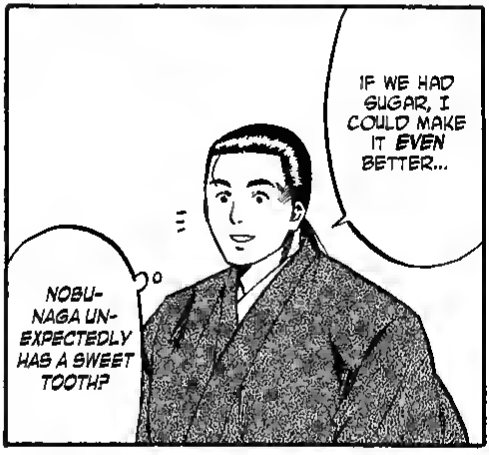

Hohohoho♪ THAT IS INTERESTING!
I-I BEG YOUR FORGIVE-NESS...
I SHALL GO GET A TOOTH-PICK IMMEDI-ATELY...!

Mmh...
ANPAO...
TOOTHSOME.
SFX: Chomp
YOU SHOULD HAVE ONE TOO, MY LORD.
Hm?
Oh...
THIS IS NOT BAD!

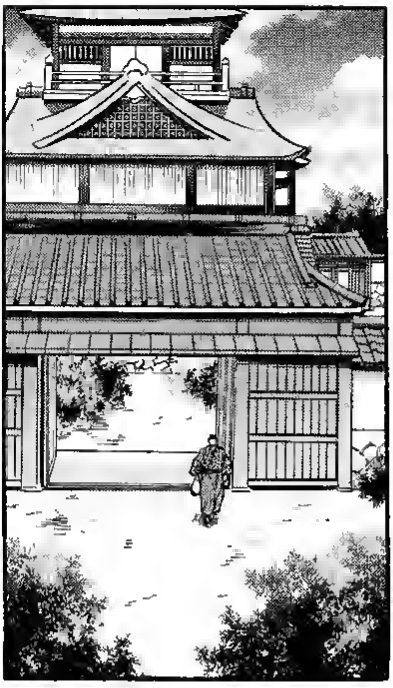
KEN, TELL ME WHAT THIS ANPÃO IS MADE OF.
IT'S A FOOD CREATED BY STUFFING A STAPLE OF THE NANBAN DIET, PÃO, WITH AZUKI BEANS THAT HAVE BEEN STEWED IN AMAKAZURASEN.


AMAKA-ZURASEN IS MADE FROM THE SAP OF THE GRAPE IVY PLANT DURING THE WINTER MONTHS.
IT WAS A STANDARD SWEETENER FROM ANCIENT TIMES RECORDED IN "THE PILLOW BOOK*".

*T/N: Makuranosoushi, translated into English as 'The Pillow Book', is a compilation of anecdotes and musings by Sei Shounagon, a lady of the court. It came out in the year 1002.



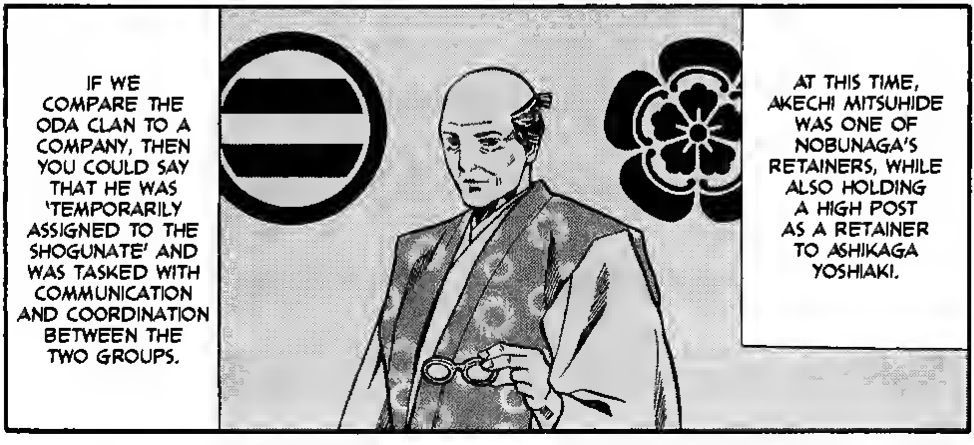
SFX: Munch Munch



THE SHOGUN HAS A LOT OF SUGAR FROM THE MANY OFFERINGS HE HAS RECEIVED.
I WILL TELL MITSUHIDE TO SEND IT OVER HERE.

HE SEEMS TO BE A SUBJECT OF BOTH NOBUNAGA AND THE SHOGUN?
ON A SIDE NOTE... I WONDER WHAT EXACTLY AKECHI MITSUHIDE IS LIKE?

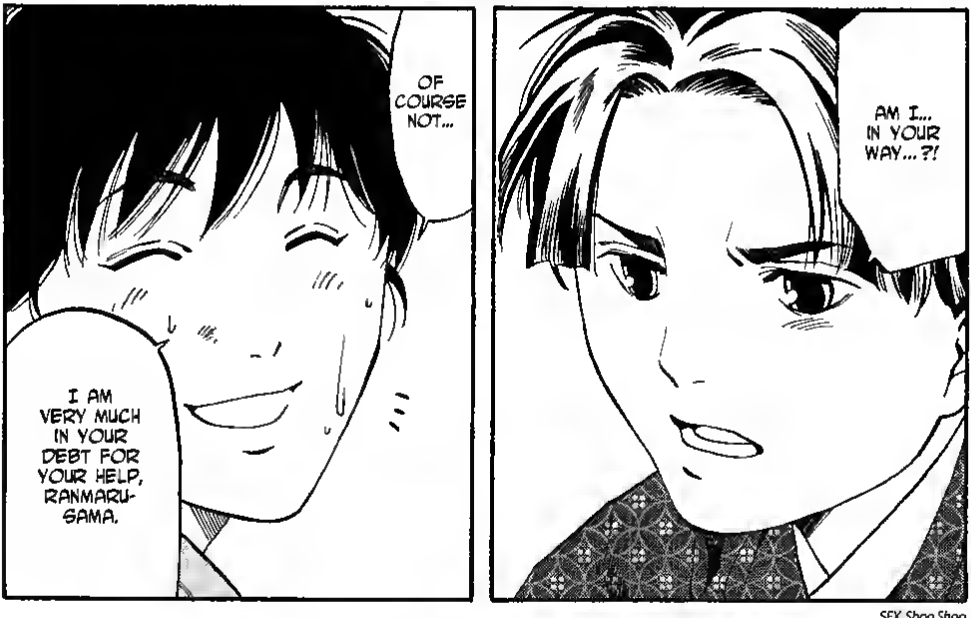
THIS IS GREAT. WITH THIS, I'LL BE ABLE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF RECIPES I CAN MAKE.


IF WE COMPARE THE ODA CLAN TO A COMPANY, THEN YOU COULD SAY THAT HE WAS 'TEMPORARILY ASSIGNED TO THE SHOGUNATE' AND WAS TASKED WITH COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS.
AT THIS TIME, AKECHI MITSUHIDE WAS ONE OF NOBUNAGA'S RETAINERS, WHILE ALSO HOLDING A HIGH POST AS A RETAINER TO ASHIKAGA YOSHIAKI.

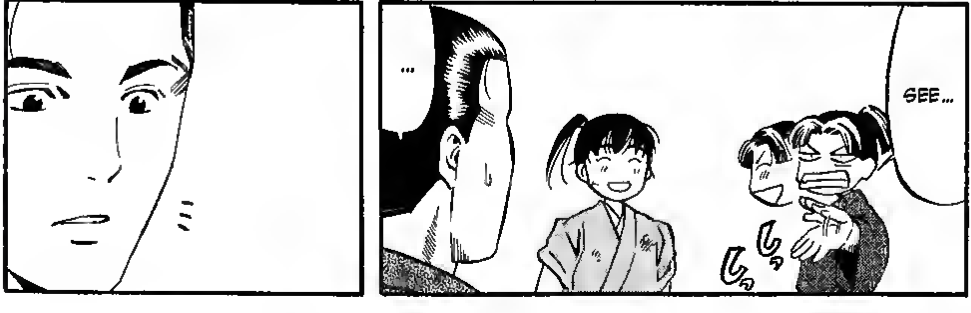
SFX: Clang
NATSU-SAN, I'VE COME TO SHARE SOME ANPÃO WITH YOU...
カィ～ン
SFX: Clang Clang
カィ～ン
カィ～ン
SFX: Clang
カィ～ン
SFX: Clang, Clang
カィ～ン
カィ～ン
SFX: Clang
RANMARU, WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
カィ～ン

YOU CAME!
KEN...
NATSU!
YES?
I AM NOT IN THE WAY! I AM HELPING!
YOU DARE USE THAT MANNER OF SPEECH WITH ME AGAIN!
ヒョイ
YOU SHOULDN'T DISTURB NATSU-SAN WHILE SHE'S WORKING.

SFX. Grab



SFX Shoo Shoo

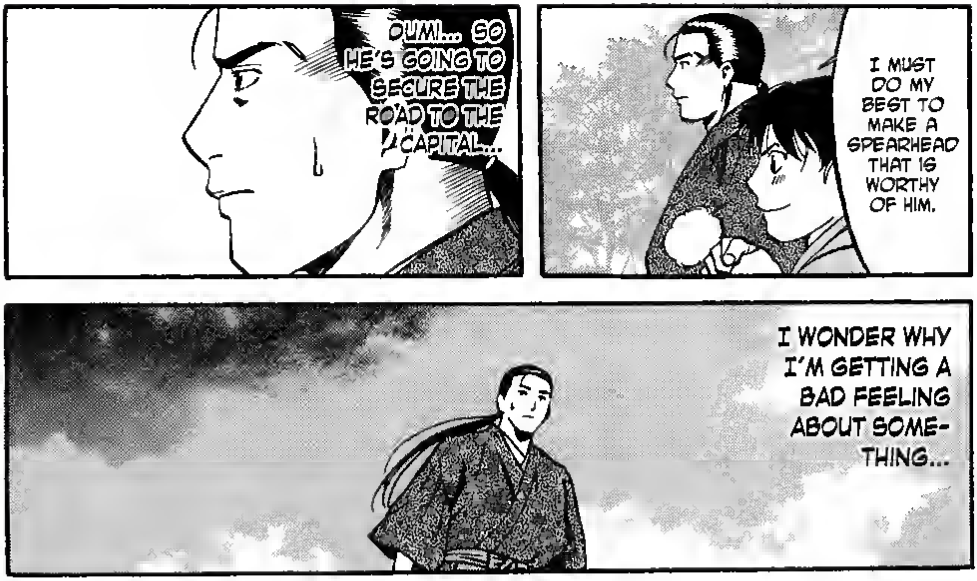


IT IS AN OOMIYARI SPEAR THAT MY FATHER'S RECEIVING FROM THE LORD.
FOOOL... IT IS NOT A SWORD, IT IS A SPEAR!
ARE YOU MAKING A SWORD FOR THE LORD RIGHT NOW?
IT CAN EVEN PUNCTURE PLATING (DEFENSIVE SHIELDS), AND BY WIELDING SUCH A WEAPON, YOU CAN PUT ON A BIG SHOW OF STRENGTH AND COURAGE. THUS, IT IS ALSO USED TO DESTROY THE ENEMY'S WILL TO FIGHT.
AN OOMIYARI SPEAR IS A SPEAR WITH A SPEARHEAD OVER TWO SHAKU* LONG.
*About 60cm
WHAT IS THIS THING?!
THIS TASTES SO GOOD!
Hmm...
BUT BECAUSE IT IS SO HEAVY, YOU NEED A LOT OF ARM STRENGTH AS WELL AS SUPERB SKILL TO BE ABLE TO WIELD IT.

SFX Rattle
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU ARE EATING SOMETHING REALLY GOOD.
YUMMY!
YUMMY!
SFX Guoh!

SFX: Woosh
FATHER'S SO AWE-SOME!
WOAH...
NATSU-DONO, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO MAKE IT A SHAKU LONGER.
AS YOU LIKE, SIR.
I SHALL ALSO BE HEADING TO OUMI ONCE AGAIN, TODAY.

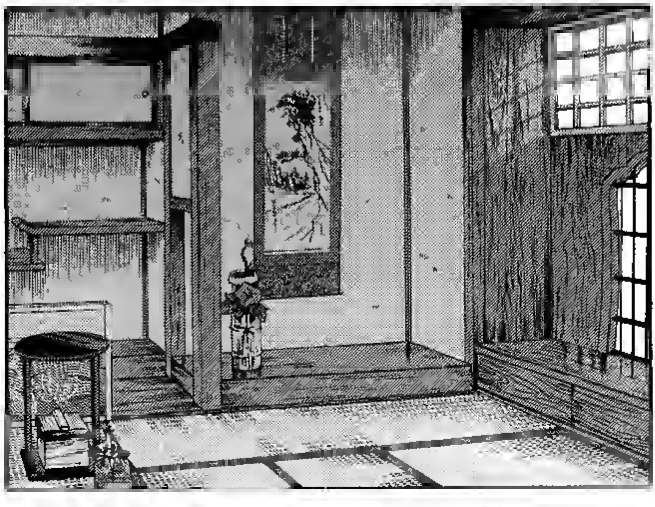
Um... IT IS STILL GOING TO TAKE A WHILE TO FINISH THE SPEAR THOUGH...
IN ORDER TO PREVENT ANY SOUTHERN ENCROACHMENT BY ASAKURA OR AZAI, THE LORD HAS ORDERED ME TO FORTIFY A CASTLE, BUT SINCE IT HAS BEEN GOING MORE SLOWLY THAN EXPECTED, I WAS REPRIMANDED.
I AM GOING IN PERSON TO MOTIVATE EVERYONE.
I DO NOT MIND.
I WILL PROTECT THE LORD'S CASTLE WITH THAT SPEAR, SO TAKE YOUR TIME AND FORGE IT AS BEST YOU CAN.
UNTIL NEXT TIME...
THAT ANPÃO WAS GOOD.

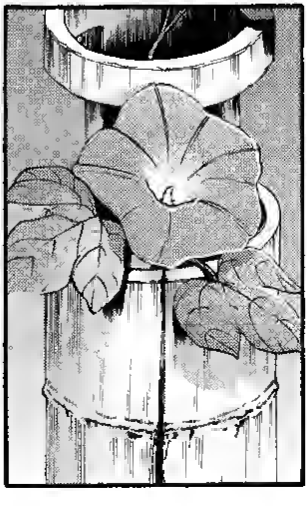

OUMI... SO HE'S GOING TO SECURE THE ROAD TO THE CAPITAL...
I MUST DO MY BEST TO MAKE A SPEARHEAD THAT IS WORTHY OF HIM.
I WONDER WHY I'M GETTING A BAD FEELING ABOUT SOMETHING...

SFX. Cmk Crk Crk Crk

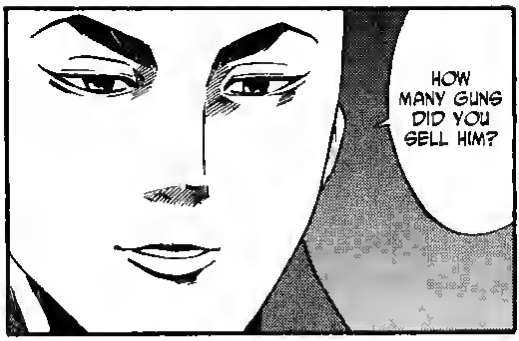
WITH A WAVE OF HIS HAND, THE HEAD PRIEST OF THE HONGAN-JI TEMPLE COULD ROUSE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF THE MONTO SECT'S FOLLOWERS ACROSS THE DIFFERENT STATES.
ACTUALLY, IT IS FAR MORE IMPRESSIVE THAN ANY DAIMYO AROUND HERE.

RATHER THAN A TEMPLE, ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI LOOKS LIKE A DAIMYO'S CASTLE, DOES IT NOT?





SFX: Swip
ニュルリ
YOU HAVE COME FAR IN THE SUMMER HEAT...
IMAI SOUKYUU-DONO, SEN SOUEKI-DONO.
11TH ABBOT OF THE HONGAN-JI TEMPLE.
I HEARD THAT THE ODA CLAN'S ENVOY VISITED SAKAI JUST THE OTHER DAY.
Oh, IT WAS NOTHING. YOU ALSO SEEM WELL, KENNYO-SAMA...

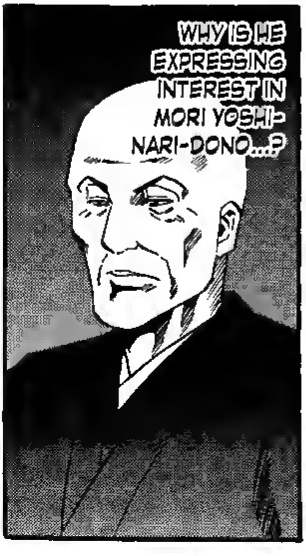

HOW MANY GUNS DID YOU SELL HIM?

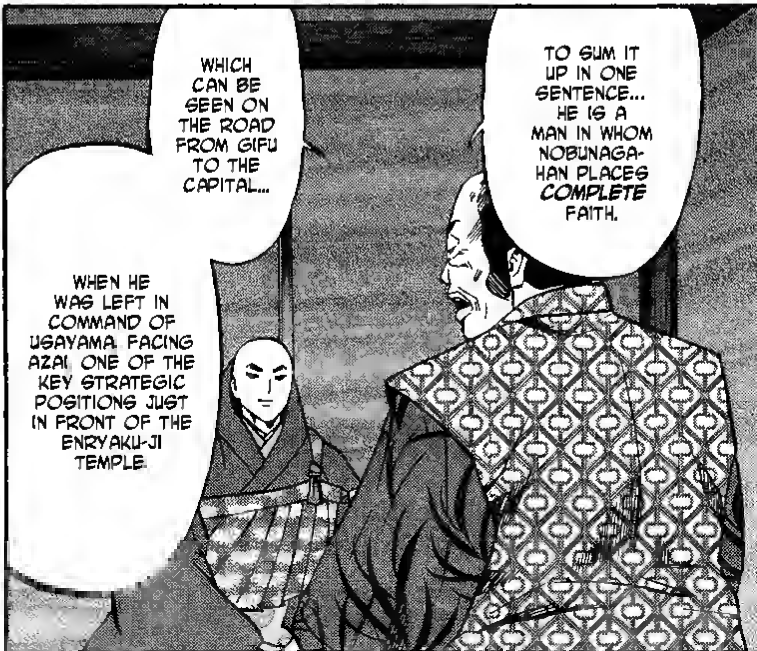
RIGHT TO THE POINT, EH?
YEAH, WELL...
WORD CERTAINLY TRAVELS TO YOU FAST, KENNYO-SAMA...

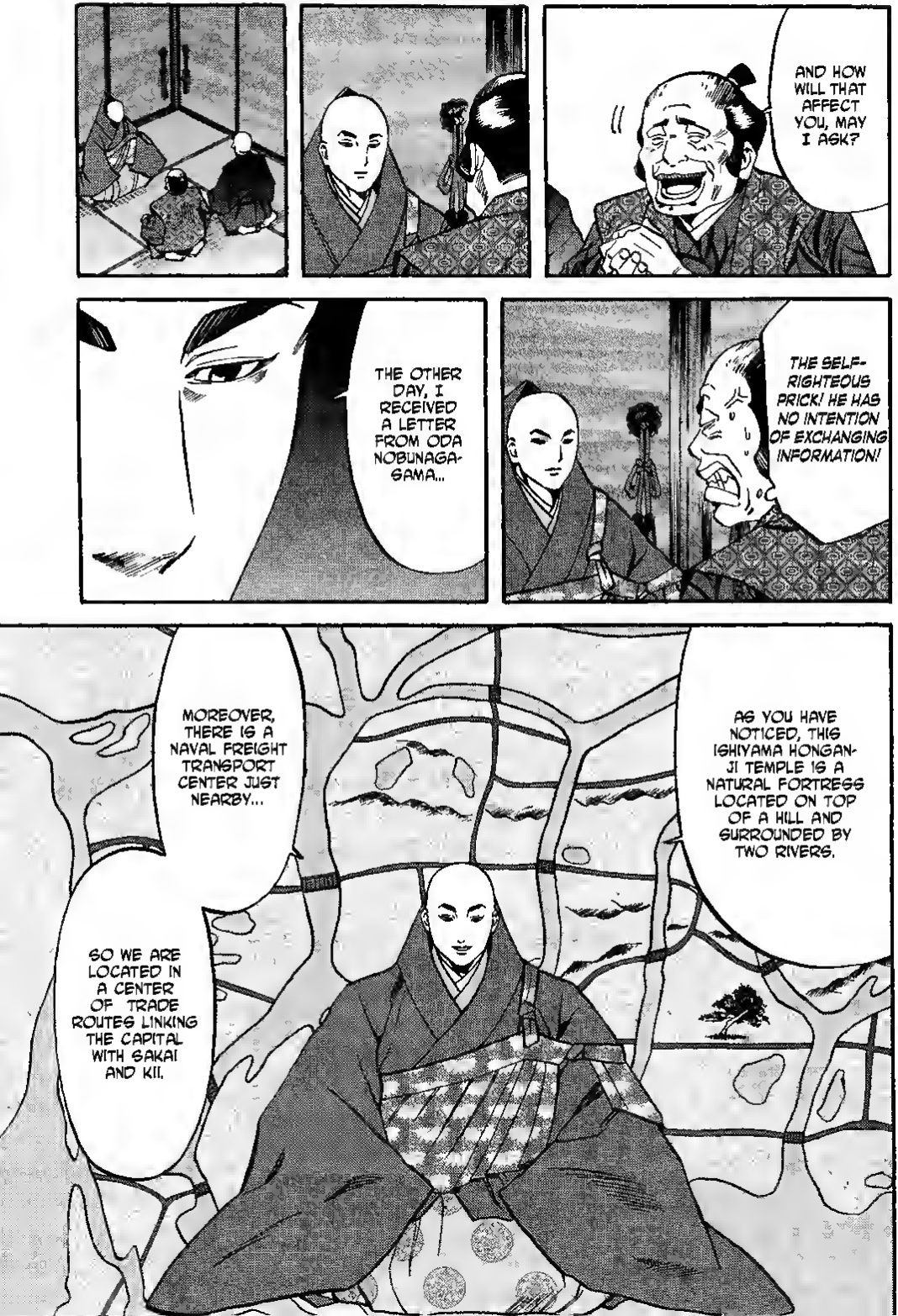
SFX Flatten

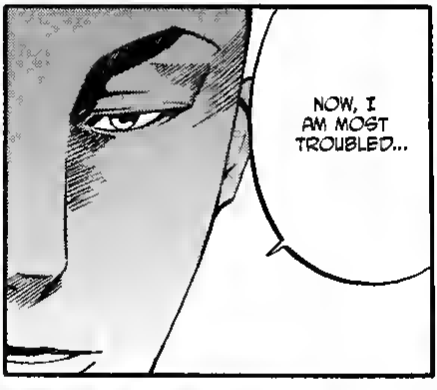
ヒロ

I WONDER...? I HAVE NO CLUE...
AND WHAT TYPE OF MAN WAS MORI YOSHINARI?


WHY IS HE EXPRESSING INTEREST IN MORI YOSHI-NARI-DONO...?

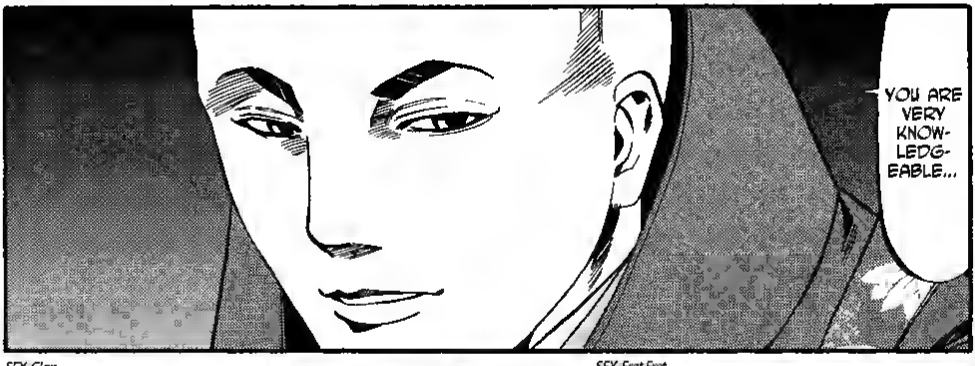

TO SUM IT UP IN ONE SENTENCE... HE IS A MAN IN WHOM NOBUNAGA-HAN PLACES COMPLETE FAITH.
WHICH CAN BE SEEN ON THE ROAD FROM GIFU TO THE CAPITAL...
WHEN HE WAS LEFT IN COMMAND OF USAYAMA FACING AZAI, ONE OF THE KEY STRATEGIC POSITIONS JUST IN FRONT OF THE ENRYAKU-JI TEMPLE.


AND HOW WILL THAT AFFECT YOU, MAY I ASK?
THE OTHER DAY, I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ODA NOBUNAGA-SAMA...
THE SELF-RIGHTEOUS PRICK! HE HAS NO INTENTION OF EXCHANGING INFORMATION!
AS YOU HAVE NOTICED, THIS ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE IS A NATURAL FORTRESS LOCATED ON TOP OF A HILL AND SURROUNDED BY TWO RIVERS.
MOREOVER, THERE IS A NAVAL FREIGHT TRANSPORT CENTER JUST NEARBY...
SO WE ARE LOCATED IN A CENTER OF TRADE ROUTES LINKING THE CAPITAL WITH SAKAI AND KII.



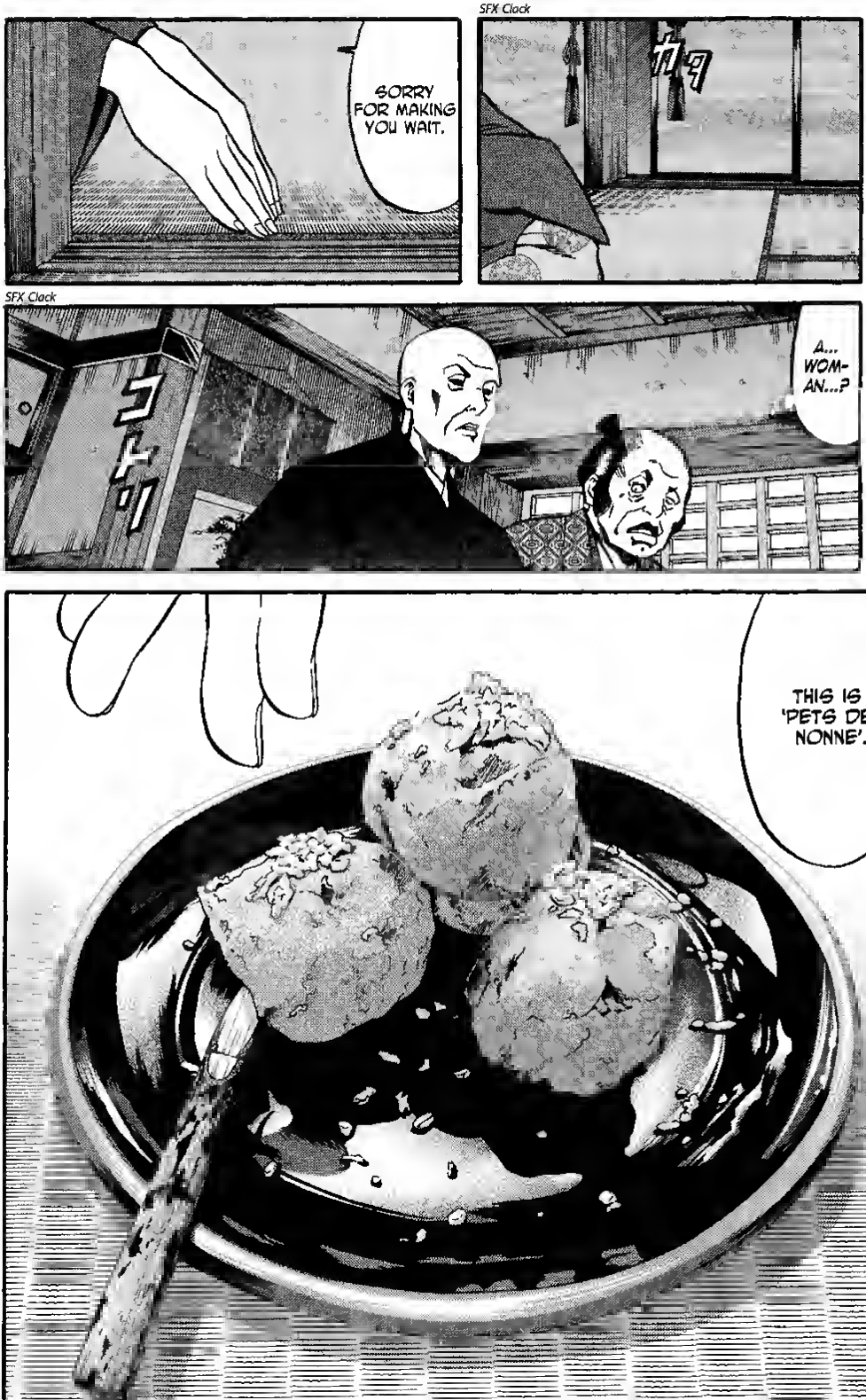
*T/N Abiding By the king's law

WOULD YOU DISAGREE THAT THE RULER AT THE MOMENT IS ODA NOBUNAGA-SAMA?
"TO BE BUDDHIST IS TO OBEY THE RULER AND TO HELP ESTABLISH POLITICAL STABILITY AND ORDER...


YOU ARE VERY KNOW-LEDG-EABLE...

SFX: Clap
PLEASE TRY SOME OF THE CAKES OUR CHEF HAS PREPARED BEFORE WE HAVE TEA.

SFX: Fret Fret


SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WAIT.
SFX Clack
カラ
SFX Clack
コト
A... WOM-AN...?
THIS IS 'PETS DE NONNE'.

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

PROOFREADER: FALLACY

EDITOR: FALLACY

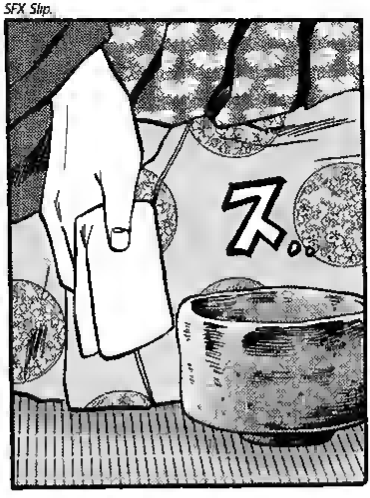
QC: PIMELEA

Chapter 39 The Hongan-ji Chef

IT WAS FIRST MADE IN A COUNTRY CALLED FRANCE WHERE, WHILE CLEANING, A NUN FARTED. SINCE SHE WAS SO EMBARRASSED, SHE FRIED DOUGH IN OIL TO COVER UP THE SMELL.
FART!
MMH!
MMMMH....! DELICIOUS!
IF YOU MAKE THINGS WITH RATHER DISTASTEFUL NAMES...
YOU WILL MAKE ME LOSE MY APPETITE.
VERY TASTY.
WHILE THE OUTSIDE IS MILDLY SWEET, THE INSIDE IS VERY MOIST...

NOT EVEN ODA NOBU-NAGA-SAMA COULD GET IT...
THIS IS SOMETHING YOU CAN-NOT EAT ANYWHERE ELSE.
SFX. Nom Nom
YES...
WERE YOU THE ONE WHO MADE THIS?
I SHOULD NOT GIVE AWAY THIS INFORMATION TOO CHEAPLY. LET ME STAY SILENT.
HOHO, SO HE STILL DOES NOT KNOW ABOUT KEN.
SFX. Munch
YOU MAY LEAVE US NOW.
YES.

WHERE DID THE LADY JUST NOW TRAIN TO MAKE SUCH DESSERTS?
WHO KNOWS...? SHE NEVER TALKS ABOUT HERSELF OR WHERE SHE COMES FROM.


SFX Slip.
ス。。

AND WHAT GOOD WOULD HER NAME BE TO YOU...?

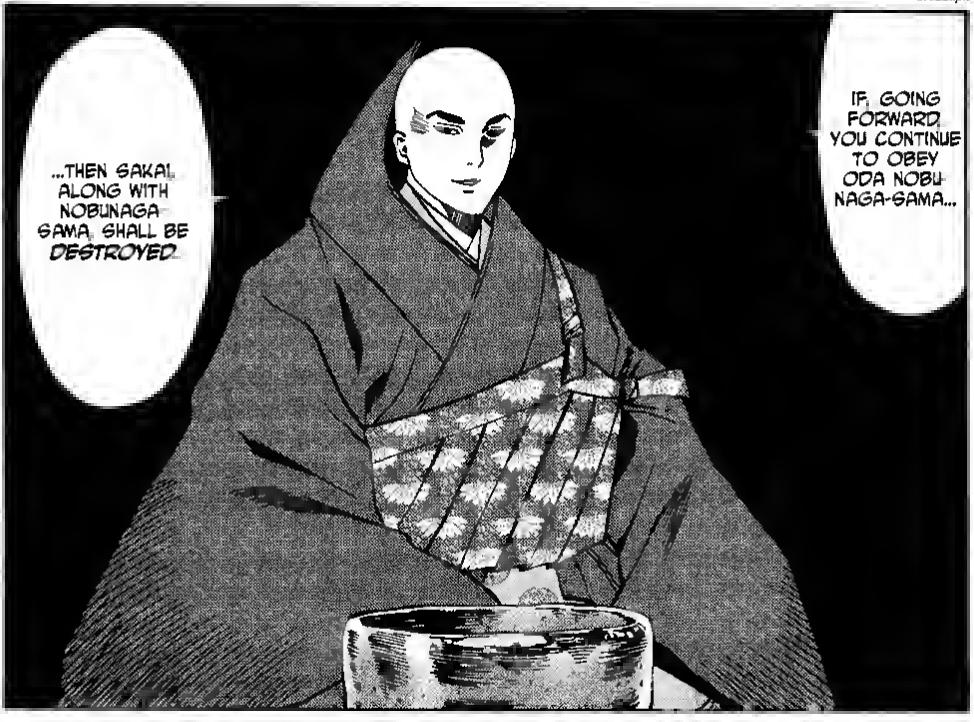
WHAT IS HER NAME?

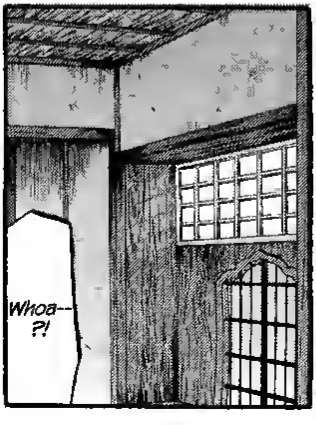
WE DO NOT EVEN KNOW WHERE SHE WAS BORN.
SOME MONTO SECT MEMBERS FOUND HER UNCONSCIOUS IN THE MOUNTAINS NEAR THE CAPITAL AND BROUGHT HER TO SAFETY.

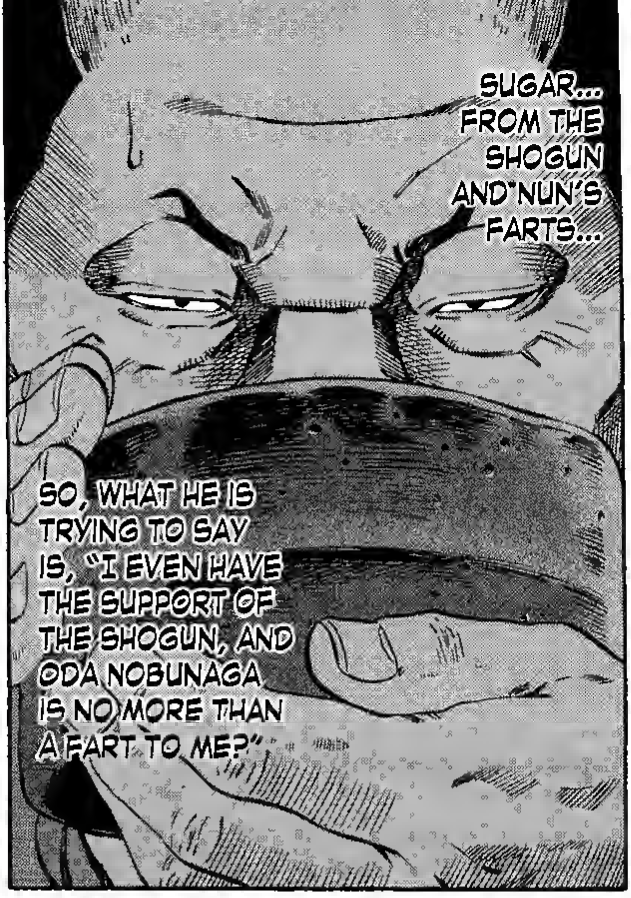
BY THE SHOGUN, YOU SAY?
THE SUGAR USED IN THAT CAKE JUST NOW... WAS GIVEN TO US BY THE SHOGUN.
SFX. Swish Swish Swish

NO, NO, THERE IS NO DEEP REASON!
SO THAT MUST BE THE RUMORED CHEF... IT IS NOT THE TYPE OF THING YOU COULD ASK SOMEONE TO SELL.

ALTHOUGH IT MAY BE ARROGANT OF ME, I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU, THE REPRESENTATIVES OF SAKAI, A WARNING.
SFX: Slip...


IF, GOING FORWARD, YOU CONTINUE TO OBEY ODA NOBUNAGA-SAMA...
...THEN SAKAI, ALONG WITH NOBUNAGA-SAMA, SHALL BE DESTROYED.


Whoa---?!


SUGAR... FROM THE SHOGUN AND NUN'S FARTS...
SO, WHAT HE IS TRYING TO SAY IS, "I EVEN HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE SHOGUN, AND ODA NOBUNAGA IS NO MORE THAN A FART TO ME?"

HOW CAN THIS MAN JUST MAKE SUCH A PROGNOSTI-CATION SO EASILY...?
SLURP

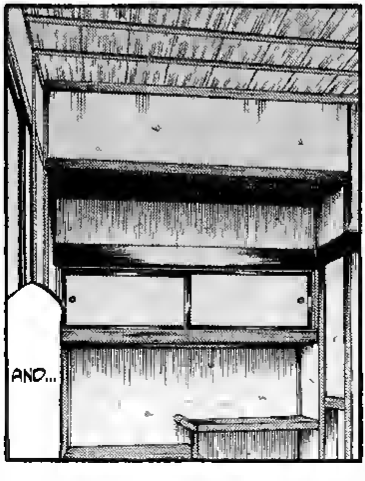
THIS MAN, HE COULD NOT MEAN TO...!
SO THE REASON HE CALLED ME OUT HERE WAS TO THREATEN ME TO NOT SELL THE FIREARMS TO NOBUNAGA...

YOU HOLD THE POSITION OF ABBOT OF THE HONGAN-JI TEMPLE.
Eek?!
SOUEKI-HAN...

DO YOU NOT THINK THIS IS A BIT RASH?

YOUR OWN RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS EXHORT YOU NOT TO FIGHT WITH ODA-SAMA...
BUT RATHER TO FOLLOW ODA-SAMA, WHO IS THE RULER.
BY THESE WORDS OF YOURS, YOU WILL CAUSE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE TO KILL EACH OTHER.
THAT SHOULD BE WHY THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE HAS OBEYED ODA-SAMA'S REPEATED DEMANDS FOR MILITARY LEVIES.
SO WHAT IS IT?

SFX: Straighten

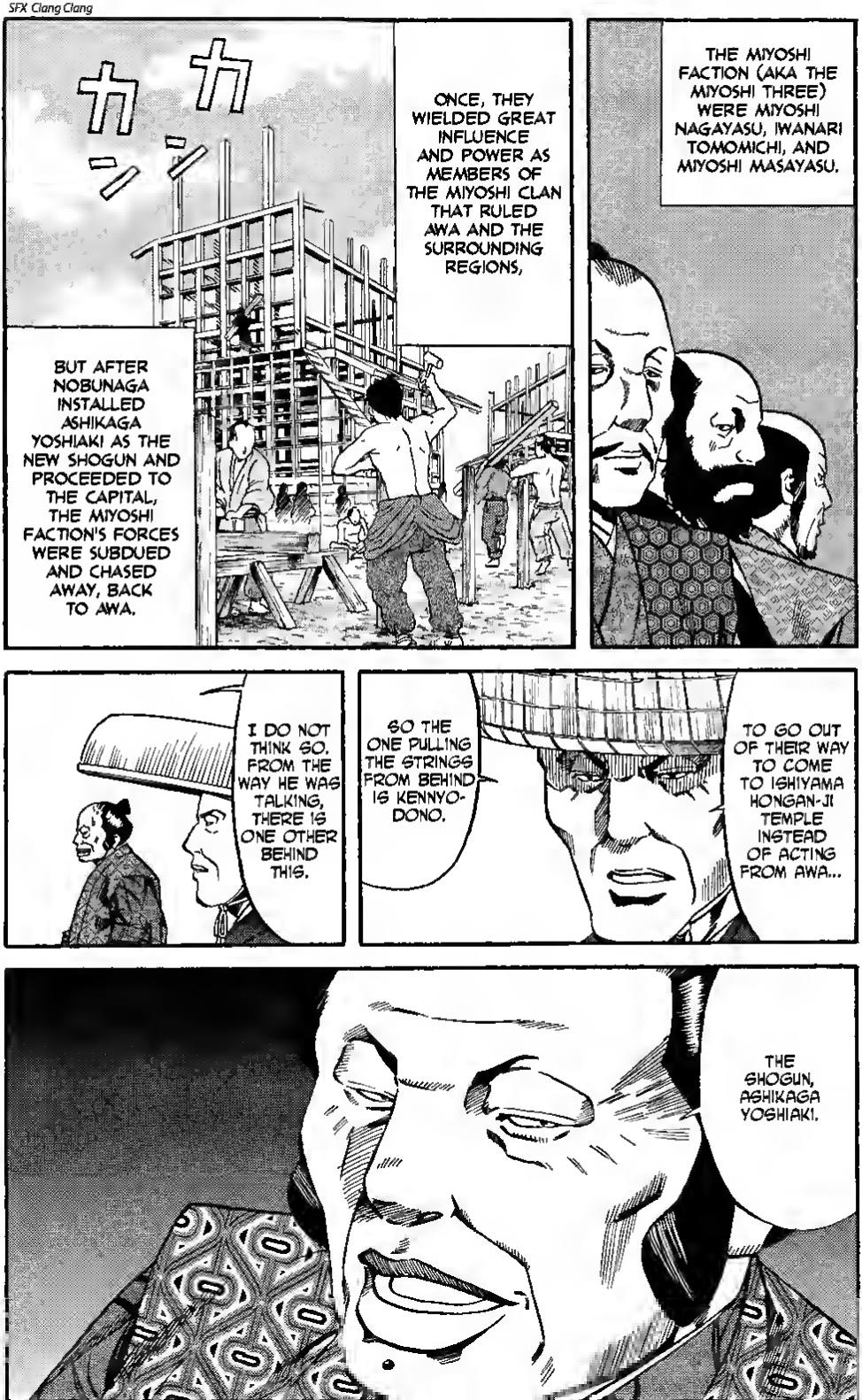


SFX Step Step Step
I TRUST THAT WE OF SAKAI CONTINUE HAVING GOOD RELATIONS WITH YOU FOR A LONG TIME!
FARE-WELL.
Phee-eeww...
IMAI-SAMA... BIG NEWS!
HEY, SOUEKI-HAN, GIVE ME A BREAK!
YOU WERE GETTING US IN OVER OUR HEADS THERE!
WHAT?

SFX: Clang Clang

SFX: Clang Clang
SO THAT IS THE MIYOSHI FACTION, eh...?
IT IS FOR REAL... THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE IS BUILDING A FORTRESS RIGHT ON THEIR OWN DOORSTEP...

...SAW IT AS A OPPORTUNITY TO OPPOSE ODA-SAMA AND CAME HERE BY BOAT FROM AWA.
YES, AS I HEAR TELL, AFTER REALIZING THAT NOBUNAGA-SAMA COULD NOT COMPLETELY QUELL AZAI'S FORCES AT THE BATTLE OF ANEGAWA, THE MIYOSHI FACTION...

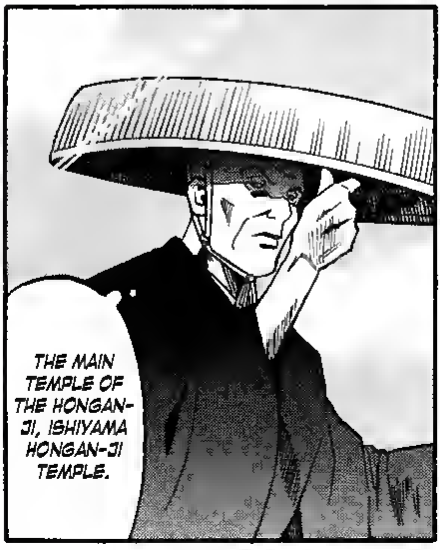

SFX Clang Clang
カン カン
ONCE, THEY WIELDED GREAT INFLUENCE AND POWER AS MEMBERS OF THE MIYOSHI CLAN THAT RULED AWA AND THE SURROUNDING REGIONS,
BUT AFTER NOBUNAGA INSTALLED ASHIKAGA YOSHIAKI AS THE NEW SHOGUN AND PROCEEDED TO THE CAPITAL, THE MIYOSHI FACTION'S FORCES WERE SUBDUED AND CHASED AWAY, BACK TO AWA.
THE MIYOSHI FACTION (AKA THE MIYOSHI THREE) WERE MIYOSHI NAGAYASU, IWANARI TOMOMICHI, AND MIYOSHI MASAYASU.
I DO NOT THINK SO. FROM THE WAY HE WAS TALKING, THERE IS ONE OTHER BEHIND THIS.
SO THE ONE PULLING THE STRINGS FROM BEHIND IS KENNYO-DONO.
TO GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO COME TO ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE INSTEAD OF ACTING FROM AWA...
THE SHOGUN, ASHIKAGA YOSHIAKI.

...IT WOULD NOT BE SURPRISING, WHOMEVER HE DECIDED TO ALLY WITH.
ACCORDING TO THE RUMORS, THE SHOGUN IS ON VERY BAD TERMS WITH NOBUNAGA, WHICH MEANS THAT...

BUT THE PREVIOUS SHOGUN, THE CURRENT SHOGUN'S OLDER BROTHER, ASHIKAGA YOSHITERU, WAS MURDERED BY THE MIYOSHI.
THE SHOGUN? NO WAY, REALLY?

IF IT IS SOMEONE HE THINKS WILL KILL NOBUNAGA, THEN ONE OPTION IS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER TO HIM.

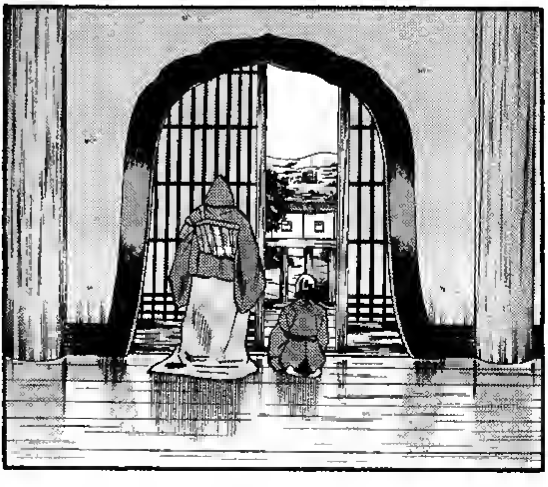
SFX: Dash

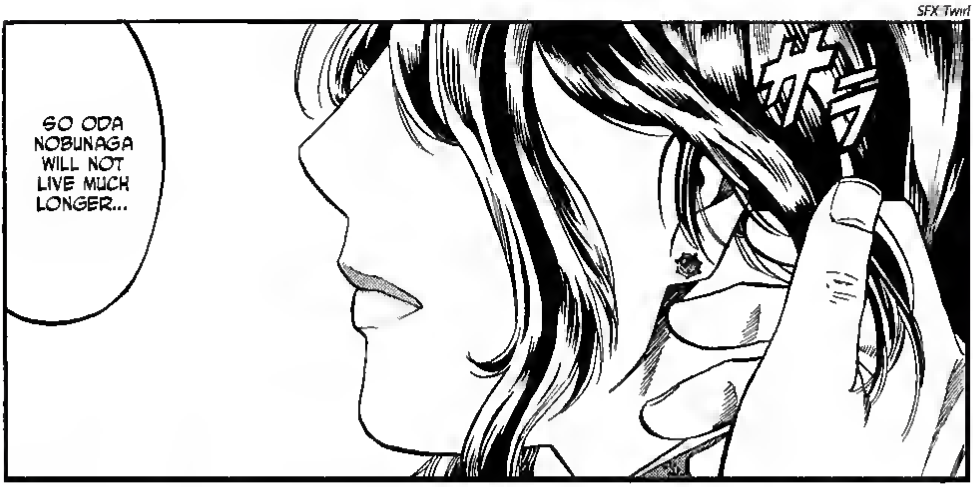

THE MAIN TEMPLE OF THE HONGAN-JI, ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE.

WE HAD BETTER GET BUSY TOO!
THIS WILL NOT END WITH THE MIYOSHI FACTION THOUGH!

...IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL BY ONLY ONE DISH...
BY THE WAY, SOUEKI-HAN, BETWEEN THAT WOMAN AND KEN, WHO DO YOU THINK IS THE BETTER CHEF?

SFX. Clang Clang




SFX Twirl
SO ODA NOBUNAGA WILL NOT LIVE MUCH LONGER...

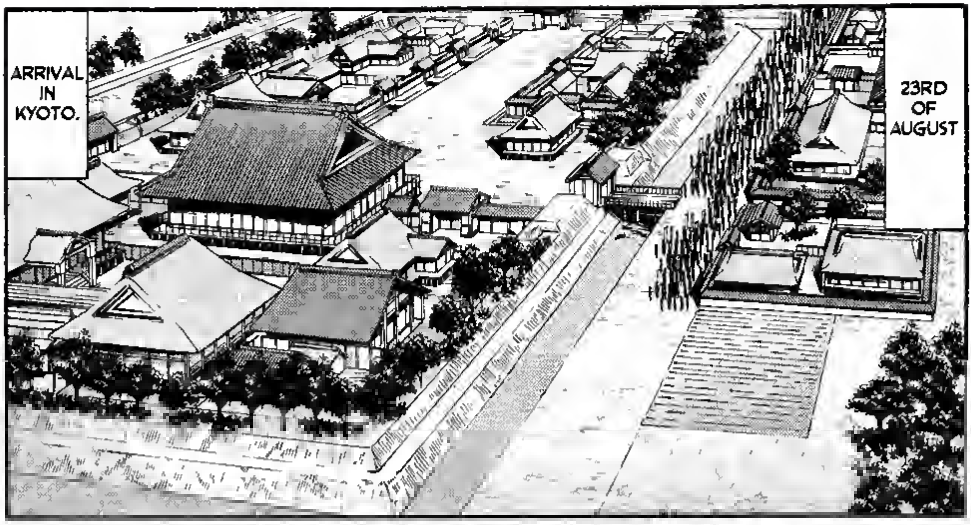
PLEASE TELL ME IF YOU SEE ANYTHING ELSE FROM THE FUTURE AGAIN...
YOUKO.

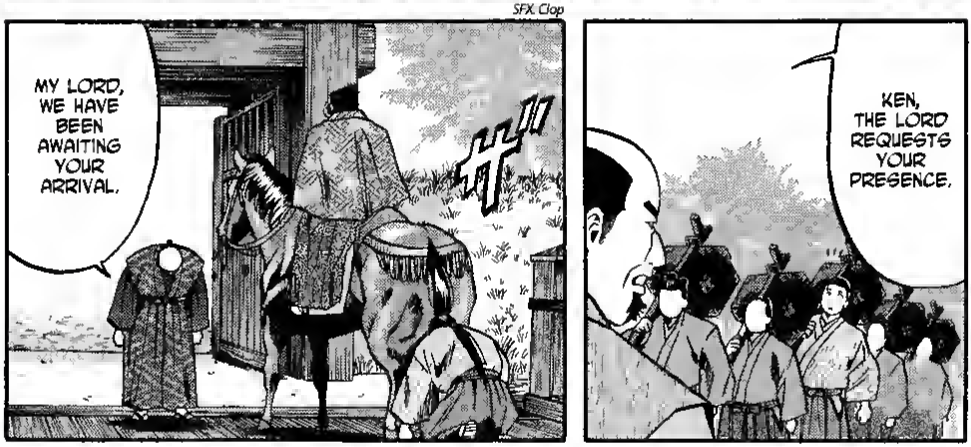
NEWS OF THE ARMY BEING RAISED BY THE MIYOSHI FACTION...
...SOON REACHED NOBUNAGA.
THE LORD HAS ORDERED US TO PREPARE TO MOVE OUT ON A CAMPAIGN!
BOSS!

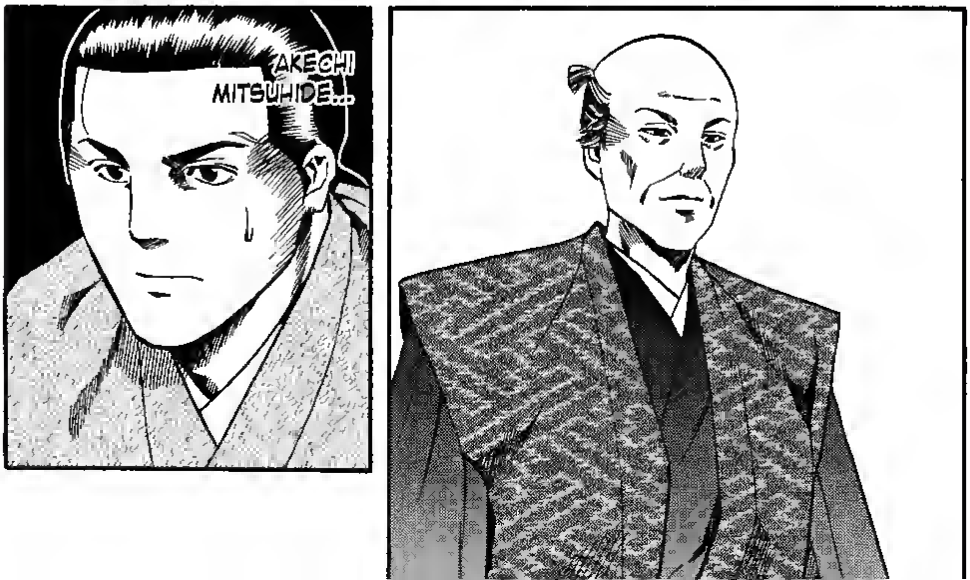
*Noda and Fukushima are both in modern-day Greater Osaka's Fukushima District

SFX: March March

SFX Clang Clang
カァーン
カァーン
SFX Clang
カァーン
SFX Clang
カァ
I WILL RETURN TO THIS CITY...
...WITHOUT FAIL.
ODA'S ARMY MARCHED SOUTH FROM GIFU.


ARRIVAL IN KYOTO.
23RD OF AUGUST


SFX: Clop
MY LORD, WE HAVE BEEN AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL.
KEN, THE LORD REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE.


AKECHI MITSUHIDE...

WILL YOU STAY AT THE HONNOU-JI DURING YOUR TIME IN KYOTO, PERHAPS?

HONNOU-JI?!

THE HONNOU-JI TEMPLE...!
THE PLACE WHERE NOBUNAGA MEETS HIS END.

GO PREPARE US A MEAL.

I WISH TO REWARD MITSUHIDE FOR THE PAINS TO WHICH HE HAS GONE.
KEN...

TO MAKE A MEAL FOR NOBUNAGA AND MITSUHIDE, HERE, AT HONNOU-JI TEMPLE...
I AM...

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

PROOFREADER: FALLACY

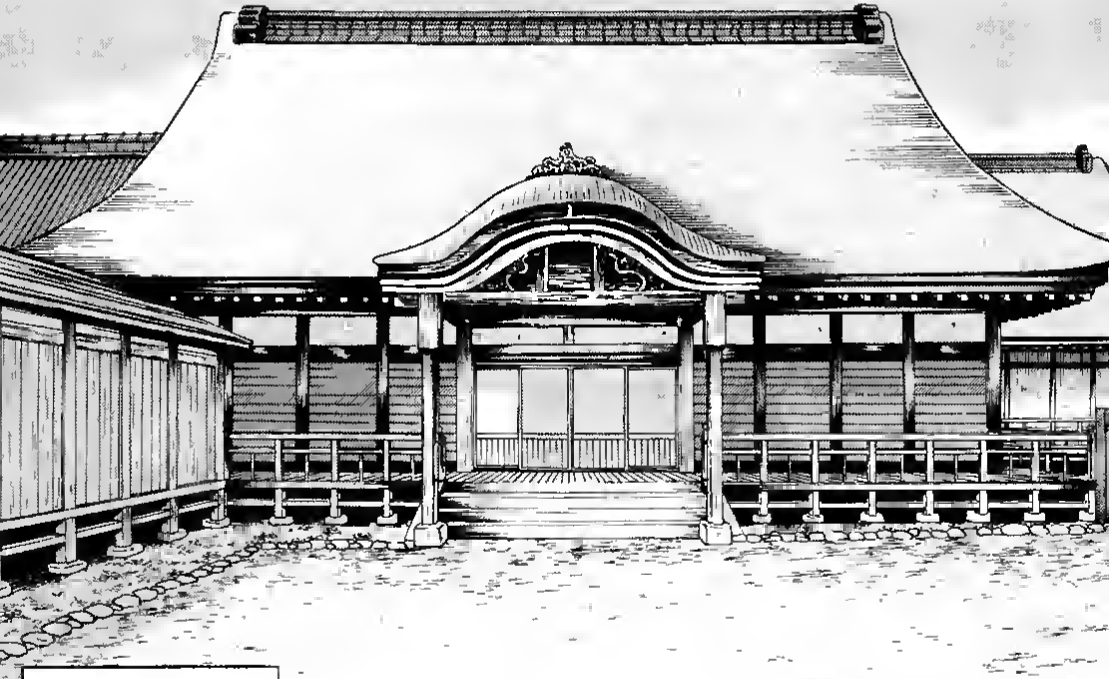
EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

Chapter 40: Nobunaga and Mitsuhide

SINCE THEN, THE TEMPLE HAD BEEN MOVED AND BURNT DOWN MANY TIMES, AND AS OF THE 17TH YEAR OF THE TENBUN PERIOD (1548), IT HAD BEEN REBUILT AS THE SHIJO NISHINOTO-IN.

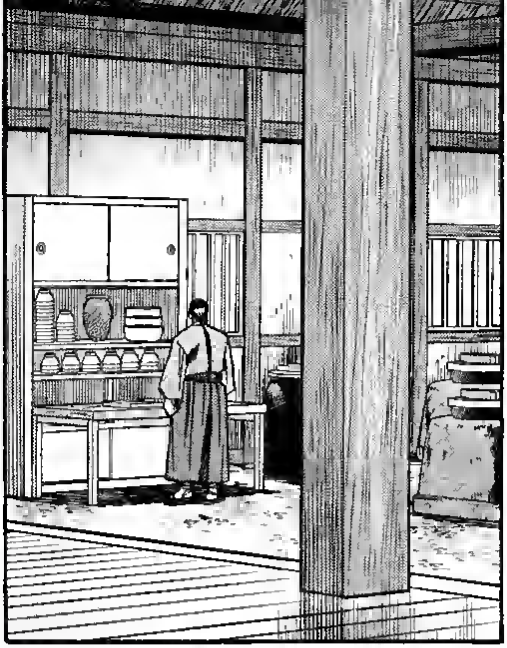
THE HONNOU-JI TEMPLE'S CON-STRUCTION WAS ORDERED IN THE 22ND YEAR OF THE OUEI PERIOD (1415) BY THE HEAD OF THE NICHIREN BUDDHISTS, NICHIRYUU.



EVEN FOR KYOTO, IT WAS RENOWNED FOR ITS SIZE AND LUXURY AND WAS USED BY ODA NOBUNAGA AS HIS RESIDENCE FROM WHENCE HE CONDUCTED POLITI-CAL AND MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

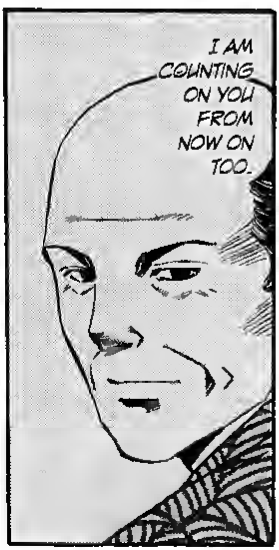
I AM FAMISHED.
MITSUHIDE, PLEASE SHOW KEN THE KITCHENS.
SO I'M MAKING A MEAL FOR NOBUNAGA AND MITSUHIDE AT THE HONNOU-JI...
HAVE YOU BEEN WELL? KEN, THE LAST TIME I MET YOU WAS, LET ME SEE...
Ah... NOT SINCE BEFORE THE RETREAT OF KANEGASAKI, I BELIEVE.
RE-TREAT ...?
DAMN, THAT NAME DIDN'T EXIST IN THIS PERIOD.
Hehe, INTEREST-INGLY PUT.
I HEAR THAT YOU HAVE BEEN TAKING GOOD CARE OF THE LORD IN GIFU.
I AM COUNTING ON YOU FROM NOW ON TOO.

...MITSUHIDE WILL DRIVE NOBUNAGA TO HIS DEATH, RIGHT HERE.
TEN YEARS FROM NOW...



SO WHAT EXACTLY OCCURS BETWEEN THEM BEFORE THEN?
THEY SEEM TO HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP AT THIS POINT...

I WONDER IF THERE ISN'T A DISH THAT CAN FURTHER DEEPEN THEIR BOND...


I AM COUNTING ON YOU FROM NOW ON TOO.

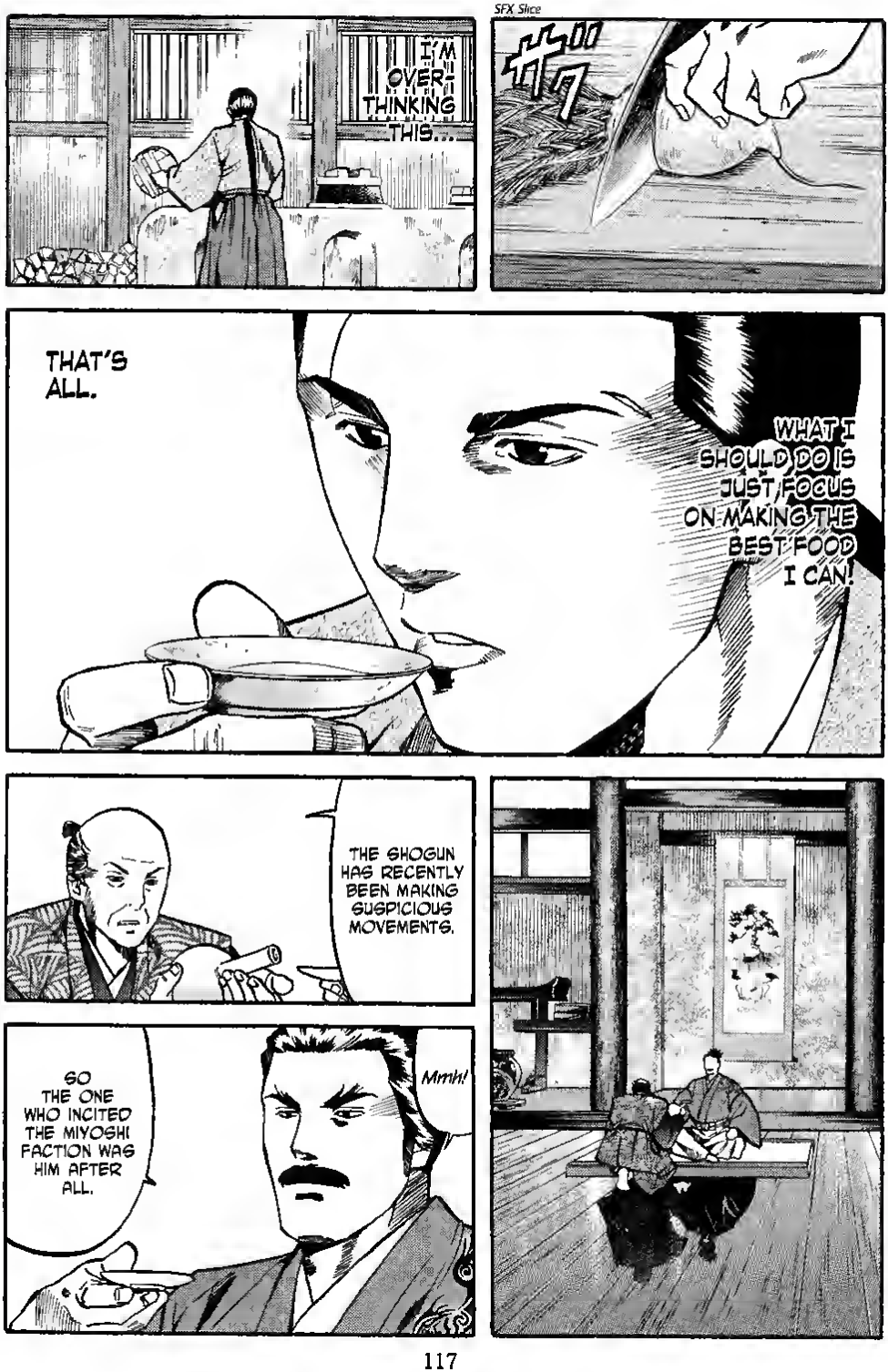
I WOULD LIKE TO REWARD MITSUHIDE FOR THE PAINS TO WHICH HE HAS GONE.

SFX Freeze

SFX Bagan Gasp

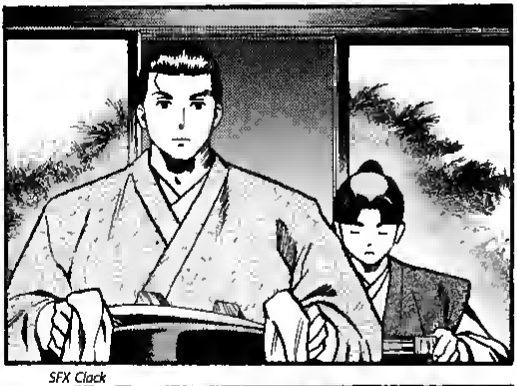
ダッ ダッ ダッ ダッ
SFX. Run Run Run Run Run
ダッ NO WAY!
SFX. Dash
SFX. Appear
AKECHI-SAMA!

WHAT, ARE YOU DONE ALREADY?
Oh... NOT YET...
KEN, WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY OUT THIS SAKAI MUSKET I RECEIVED FROM THE LORD?
NO... THANKS ...
I'LL BRING THE FOOD AS SOON AS I CAN.
I WAS BEING HASTY, THAT'S NO GOOD...

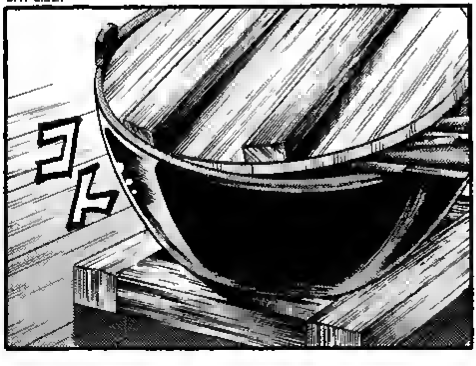

I'M OVER-THINKING THIS...
SFX: Slice
THAT'S ALL.
WHAT I SHOULD DO IS JUST FOCUS ON MAKING THE BEST FOOD I CAN!
THE SHOGUN HAS RECENTLY BEEN MAKING SUSPICIOUS MOVEMENTS.
Mmh!
SO THE ONE WHO INCITED THE MIYOSHI FACTION WAS HIM AFTER ALL.

SORRY FOR THE WAIT.

UNDER-STOOD.
EVEN AN INSECT HAS ITS USES WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT.
LET HIM SQUIRM ABOUT...



SFX Clack


コト

KIRITANPO HOT POT.

IT'S AN ALTERNATIVE TO MEAT OR FISH.
IT'S A NORTH-EASTERN SPECIALTY MADE BY WRAPPING POUNDED RICE AROUND SKEWERS AND TOASTING IT IN THE SHAPE OF A TANPO SPEAR--WHERE ITS NAME COMES FROM.

WOW...

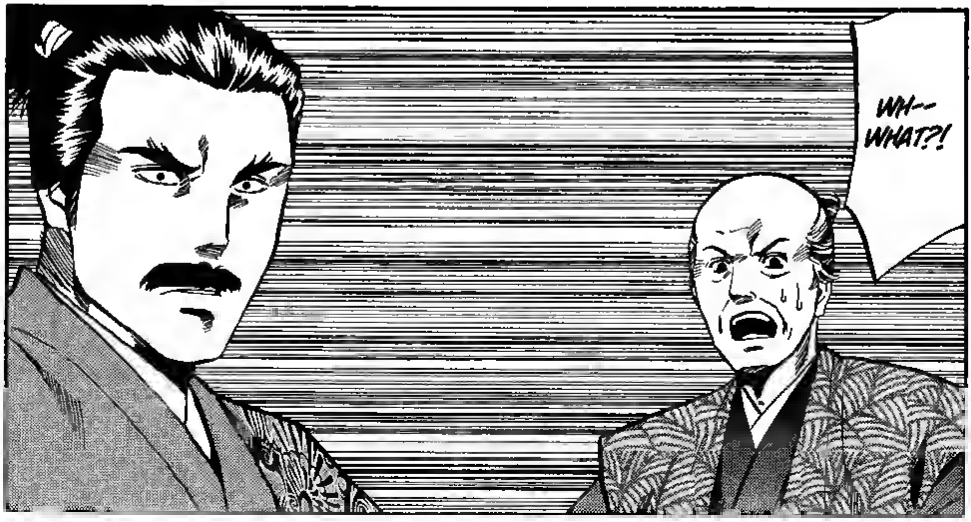
INTER-
ESTING.
ニヤリ

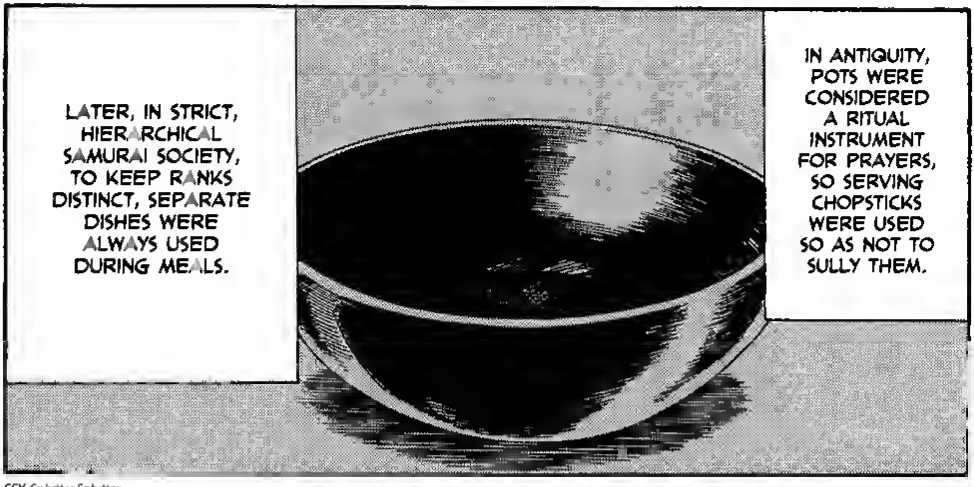
SFX: Grin

BUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MITSU-HIDE'S SHARE?

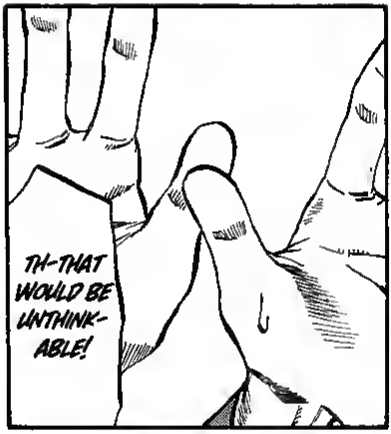
AND... WE ARE SUPPOSED TO EAT DIRECTLY FROM THE POT?

I'D INTENDED FOR THE BOTH OF YOU TO EAT FROM THE SAME POT.


WH--
WHAT?!


LATER, IN STRICT, HIERARCHICAL SAMURAI SOCIETY, TO KEEP RANKS DISTINCT, SEPARATE DISHES WERE ALWAYS USED DURING MEALS.
IN ANTIQUITY, POTS WERE CONSIDERED A RITUAL INSTRUMENT FOR PRAYERS, SO SERVING CHOPSTICKS WERE USED SO AS NOT TO SULLY THEM.

SFX: Splutter Splutter



WELL THEN, I'LL GO AHEAD AND SERVE YOU FIRST
MY-MY LORD...
Huh...?
ALLOW ME.
SFX Clack
コト

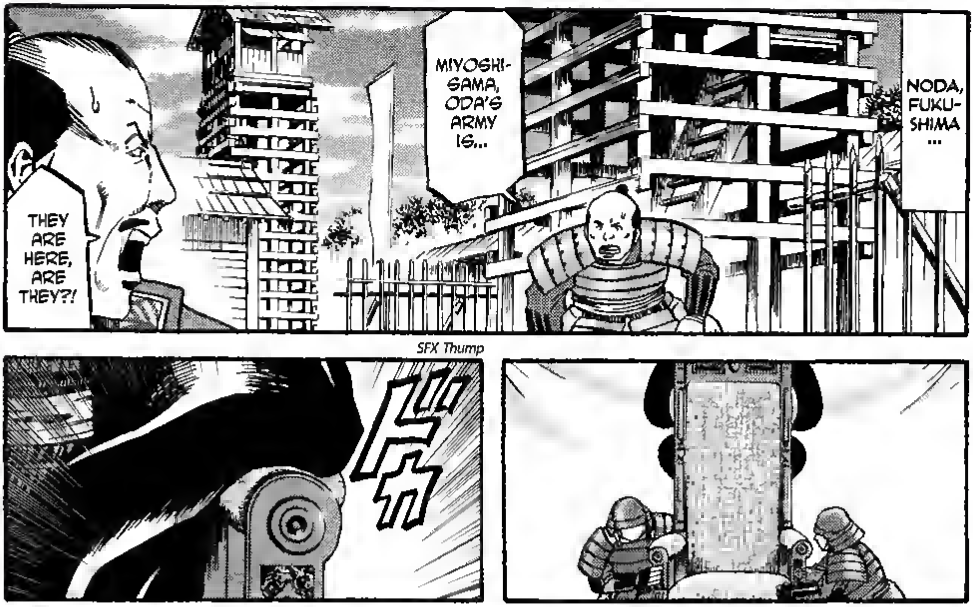
I SHALL BE DEPENDING ON YOU FROM NOW ON TOO.
MITSU-HIDE...
YOUR WORDS ...
ARE TOO GREAT AN HONOR ...

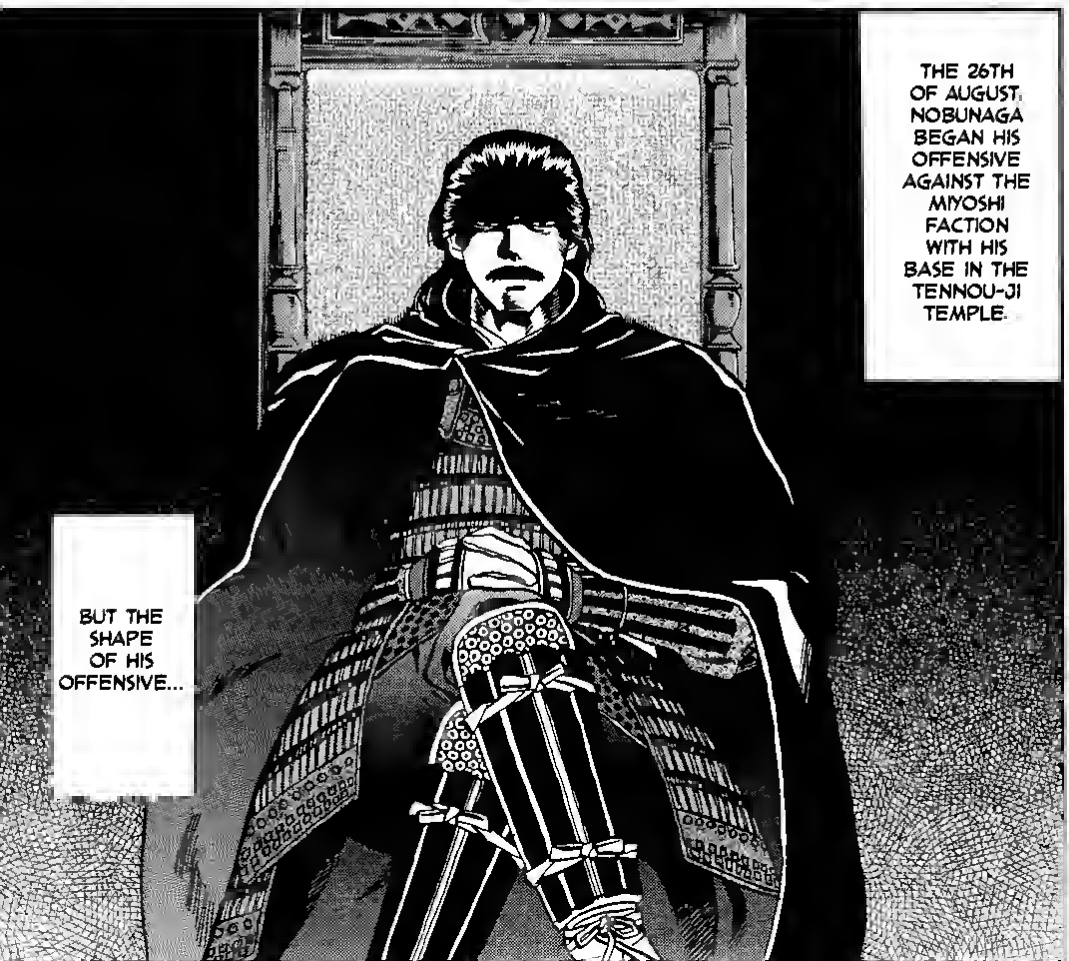
INSTEAD OF A BROTH MADE FROM BOILING MEAT, I MADE A BROTH WITH KONBU SEA-WEED...
AND TO BIND ALL THE FLAVORS TOGETHER, I USED LIME.

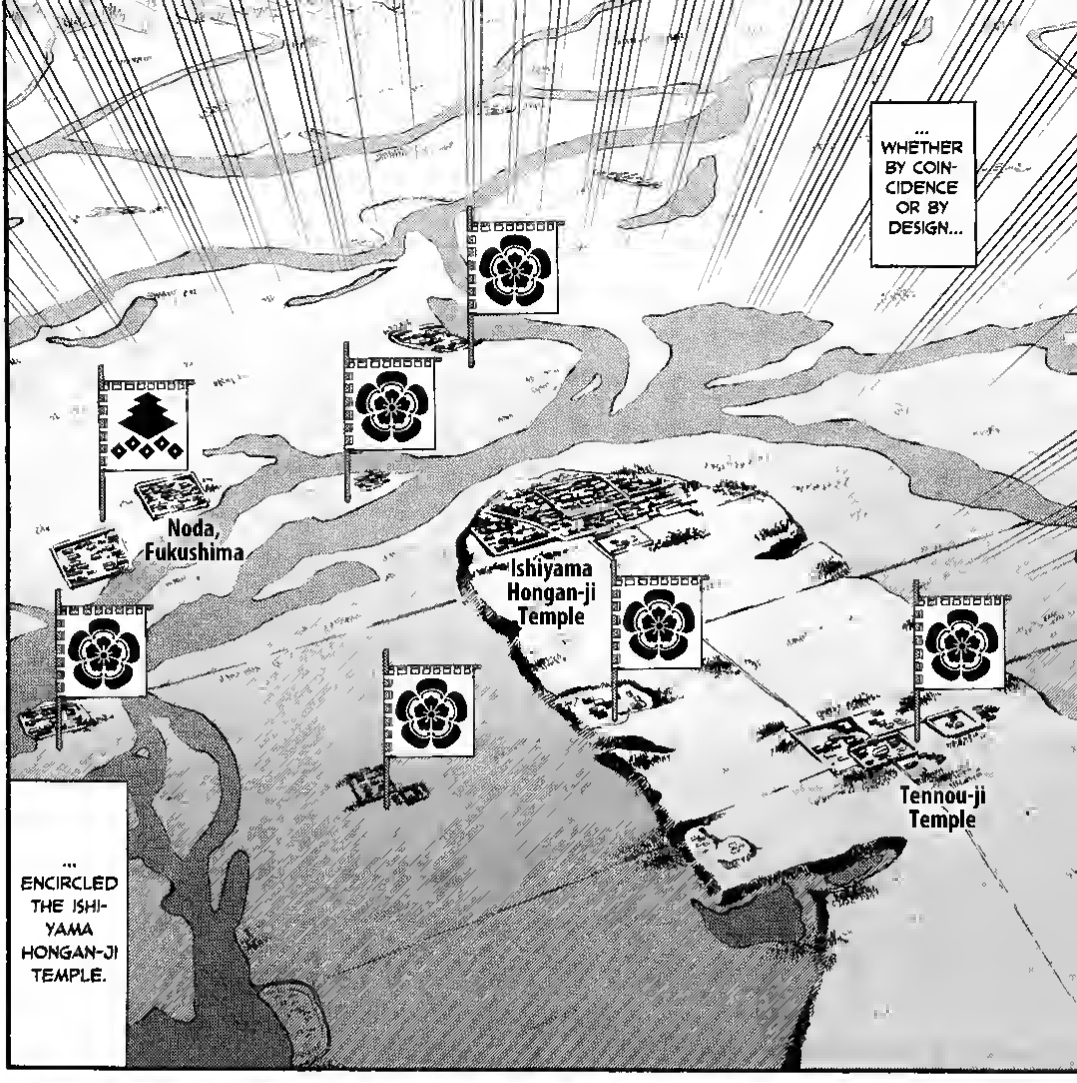
SFX Huff Huff

TEN YEARS FROM NOW...
AT THAT TIME... WILL I STILL BE BY NOBU-NAGA'S SIDE?
WILL MITSUHIDE SHOOT HIM?
WILL NOBU-NAGA REALLY BE SHOT IN THIS PLACE?

FOR-
WARD!
YES,
SIR!
THE 25TH OF AUGUST, ODA'S ARMY DEPARTED TOWARDS NODA, FUKUSHIMA.


THEY ARE HERE, ARE THEY?!
MIYOSHI-SAMA, ODA'S ARMY IS...
NODA, FUKU-SHIMA ...
SFX Thump
ドドドド


THE 26TH OF AUGUST, NOBUNAGA BEGAN HIS OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE MIYOSHI FACTION WITH HIS BASE IN THE TENNOU-JI TEMPLE.
BUT THE SHAPE OF HIS OFFENSIVE...


... WHETHER BY COIN-CIDENCE OR BY DESIGN...
Noda, Fukushima
Ishiyama Hongan-ji Temple
Tennou-ji Temple
... ENCIRCLED THE ISHI-YAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE.

KENNYO-SAMA... THIS IS...!

HERE AND NOW, WE SHALL STOP THE MIYOSHI FACTION FOR GOOD.
SFX: Bang
SFX: Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow
THE NODA, FUKUSHIMA BATTLE WAS THE FIRST IN JAPAN TO RELY ON LARGE QUANTITIES OF GUNS.

MY LORD...
WE HAVE BROUGHT HIM.
SFX Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow
IT WAS VERY GOOD OF YOU TO COME...
...SHOGUN.
ASHIKAGA YOSHIAKI-DONO.

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

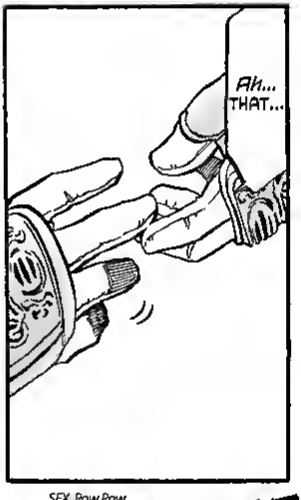
TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

PROOFREADER: FALLACY

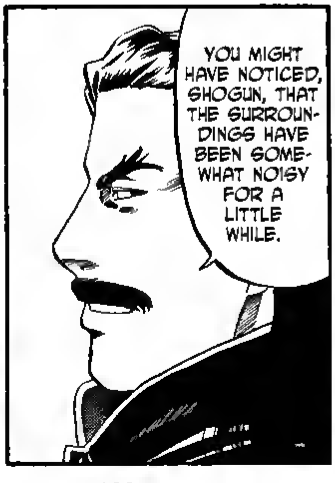
EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

Chapter 41 Showdown: Noda vs. Fukushima



SFX: Pow Pow



SFX: Pow Pow

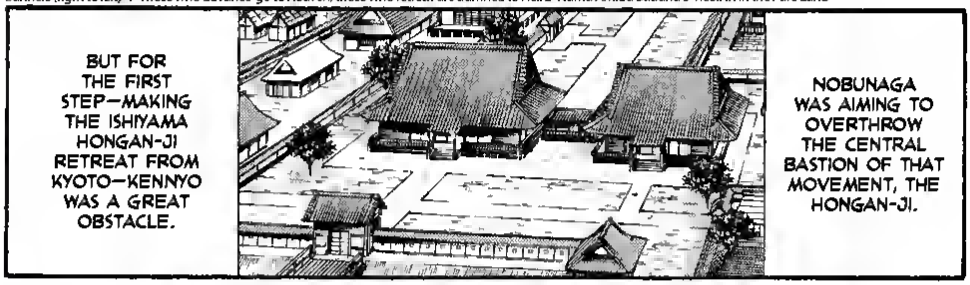
BUT FEAR NOT, YOU NEED ONLY ENDURE FOR A LITTLE WHILE LONGER.
SFX: Pow Bang Pow
IT HAS NOT BEEN FOR A LITTLE WHILE.
IT HAS BEEN NOISY ALL DAY AND NIGHT...!
THAT IS... THAT IS MOST REASSURING...
WE SHALL SHOW YOU HOW THOROUGHLY WE CRUSH THE MIYOSHI FACTION.
SFX: Bang Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow Pow

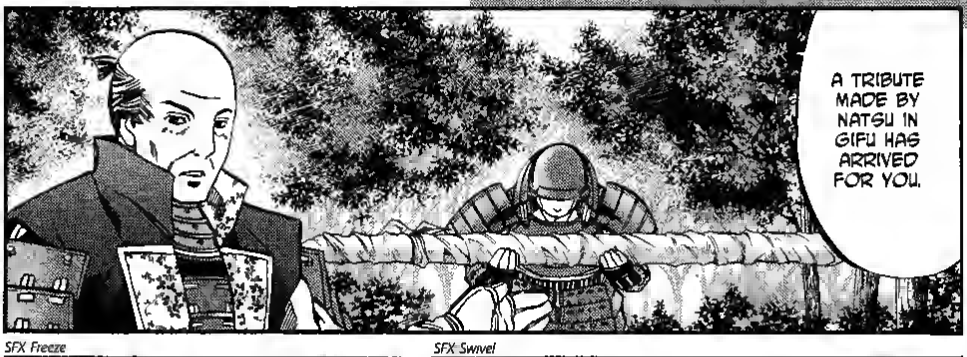
SFX Bang Pow Pow Bang
GUAH!
GYAH!
OH NO...
MIYOSHI-SAMA, YOUR ARMY IS LOSING MISERABLY.
AT THIS RATE...
IS THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE NOT GOING TO MAKE ITS MOVE?
SFX Gnt
SEND AN ENVOY...
..TO SURRENDER...

KILL HIM.
Huh...?
MY LORD, AN ENVOY HAS COME FROM MIYOSHI TO NEGOTIATE TERMS OF SURRENDER.
YE... YES, SIR!
THE MIYOSHI FACTION
SHALL BE WIPED FROM THE FACE OF THE EARTH.
WHAT IS THE HONGAN-JI TEMPLE DOING...?!

SO THE IKKOU-IKKI PEASANT MOBS FOLLOWING PRIESTS, WITH NO FEAR OF DEATH, WERE ONE OF THE MOST FEARED THREATS BY DAIMYO LORDS.
南無阿弥
欣求浄
AT THE TIME, IT WAS BELIEVED THAT IF YOU CHANTED 'NAMU AMIDA BUDDHA,' YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO GO TO NIRVANA...

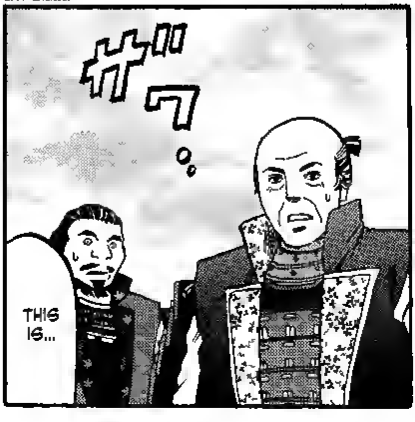
Banners (right to left) 1 Those who advance go to Heaven, those who retreat are damned to Hell 2 Namu Amida Buddha 3 Rebirth in the Pure Land


BUT FOR THE FIRST STEP—MAKING THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI RETREAT FROM KYOTO—KENNYO WAS A GREAT OBSTACLE.
NOBUNAGA WAS AIMING TO OVERTHROW THE CENTRAL BASTION OF THAT MOVEMENT, THE HONGAN-JI.



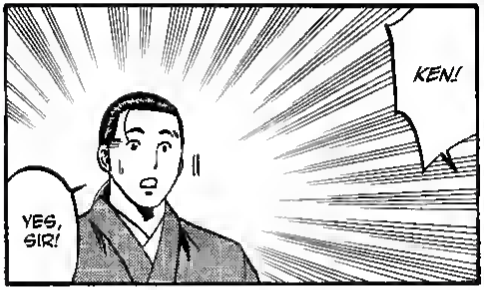
SFX Freeze

SFX Chatter



SFX Swivel

WHAT'S WRONG?
IS IT NOT WELL MADE?


KEN!
YES, SIR!

SFX. Chatter

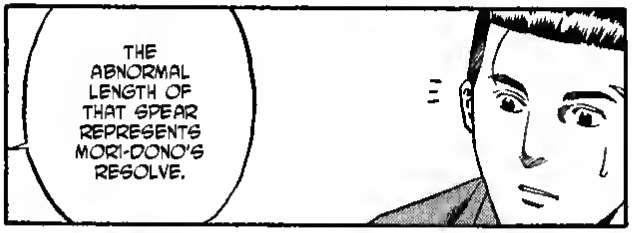
WE WILL END THIS IN NO TIME!
Eh.. AREN'T WE STILL IN BATTLE...?

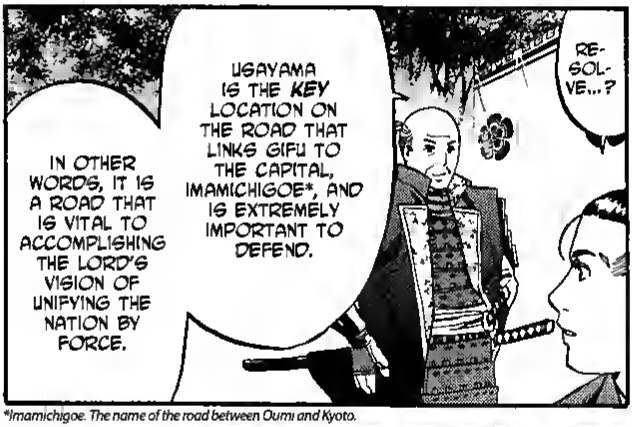
SFX. Tch
SERIOUSLY... THIS GUY'S RIDICULOUS HABITS.
YOU ARE TOO EAGER TO DIE.

TAKE THIS...
...AND GO TO USAYAMA CASTLE IN OUMI RIGHT NOW.

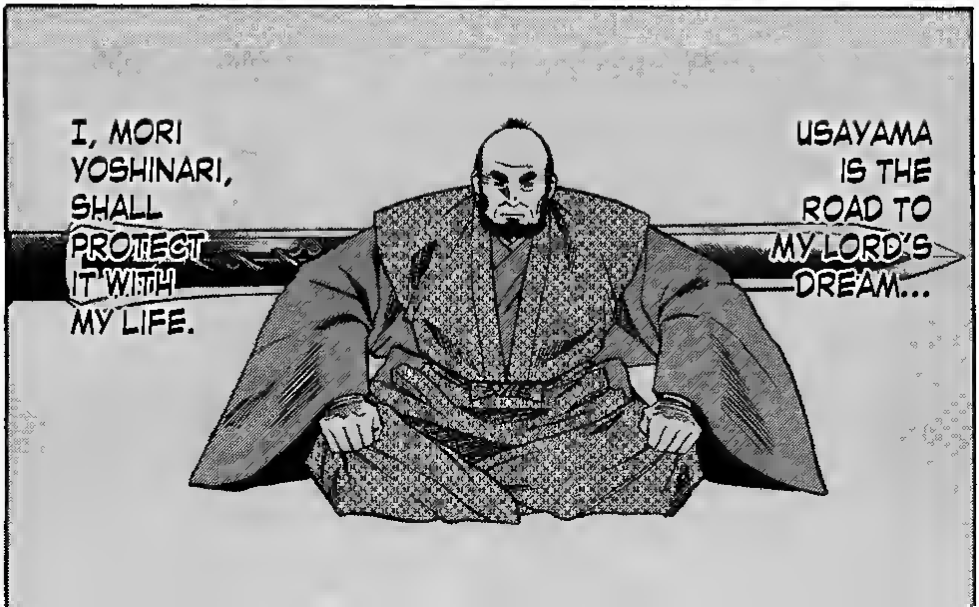
AS SOON AS THIS BATTLE ENDS, WE SHALL MAKE OUR WAY TO USAYAMA CASTLE.
TELL YOSHINARI TO...
NOT DO ANYTHING UNNECESSARY, AND MAKE READY A VICTORY BANQUET FOR OUR RETURN.

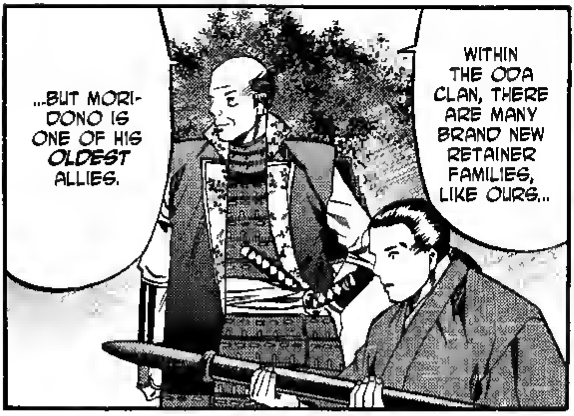
SFX Flap




RE-SOL-VE...?
USAYAMA IS THE KEY LOCATION ON THE ROAD THAT LINKS GIFU TO THE CAPITAL, IMAMICHIGOE*, AND IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO DEFEND.
IN OTHER WORDS, IT IS A ROAD THAT IS VITAL TO ACCOMPLISHING THE LORD'S VISION OF UNIFYING THE NATION BY FORCE.

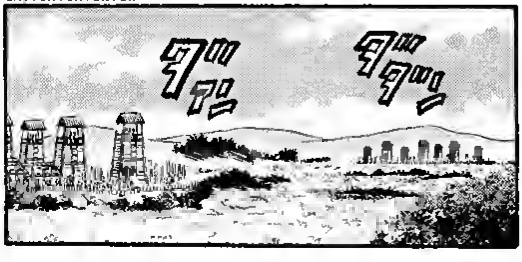
*Imamichigoe. The name of the road between Oumi and Kyoto.





SFX: Tie

SFX: Pow Pow Pow Pow



SFX Cloang Clang
WELL THEN, I'M ON MY WAY.
PREPA-RATIONS FOR A FEAST...
I HAVEN'T BROUGHT ANYTHING EXCEPT WAR PROVISIONS, BUT MAYBE I CAN SCROUNGE UP SOME INGREDIENTS ALONG THE ROAD.
KEN...?
WHERE IS HE OFF TO?

Oh, WHAT A NICE CHESTNUT...
I'LL TAKE THIS ONE.
IS KEN REALLY A SPY SENT BY KENNYO?!
YOU GET THE IDEA.
...AND IF HE HAD A SPY WHO WAS CLOSE ENOUGH TO POISON NOBUNAGA AT ANY TIME, THEN...
THERE MUST BE A REASON FOR KENNYO'S OVER-WEENING CONFI-DENCE...
IT IS POSSIBLE, I TELL YOU.
AND FOR THEM TO BE UNDER BOTH NOBU AND KENNYO SURELY CANNOT BE A COINCI-DENCE.
I SEE... TWO CHEFS SKILLED IN NANBAN COOKING SUDDENLY APPEARED...

WE SHOULD MAKE A MOVE NOW, BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE.
IF NOBUNAGA WERE TO LOSE NOW, THEN ALL THAT WE INVESTED INTO HIM AND HIS CAMPAIGN WILL HAVE BEEN FOR NAUGHT.

SFX: Rise

SFX: Crunch Crunch

SFX: Shiing

SFX: Shang
シャ
SFX: Point
ピュッ
Eh?
DO YOU KNOW OF THE CAKE "PETS DE NONNE"?
YOU...

SEN... SOUEKI-SAMA...?!

SFX: Bang Pow Pow Kapow
MY LORD, THAT YOU WOULD COME TO THE FRONT LINES OF YOUR OWN ACCORD...

SFX Kapow Kapow
WAS GOING TO ACHIEVE A CRUSHING VICTORY WAS EVIDENT.
THAT ODA'S ARMY
SFX Kapow
WE ARE NEARLY READY, SIR!
SO HOW IS OUR PROGRESS?
THE RESULTING CARELESSNESS LED TO THE GREATEST DANGER TO NOBUNAGA'S LIFE...
HOWEVER...
KENNYO-SAMA...
THE PREPARATIONS HAVE ALL BEEN COMPLETED.

SFX Gooong Gooong

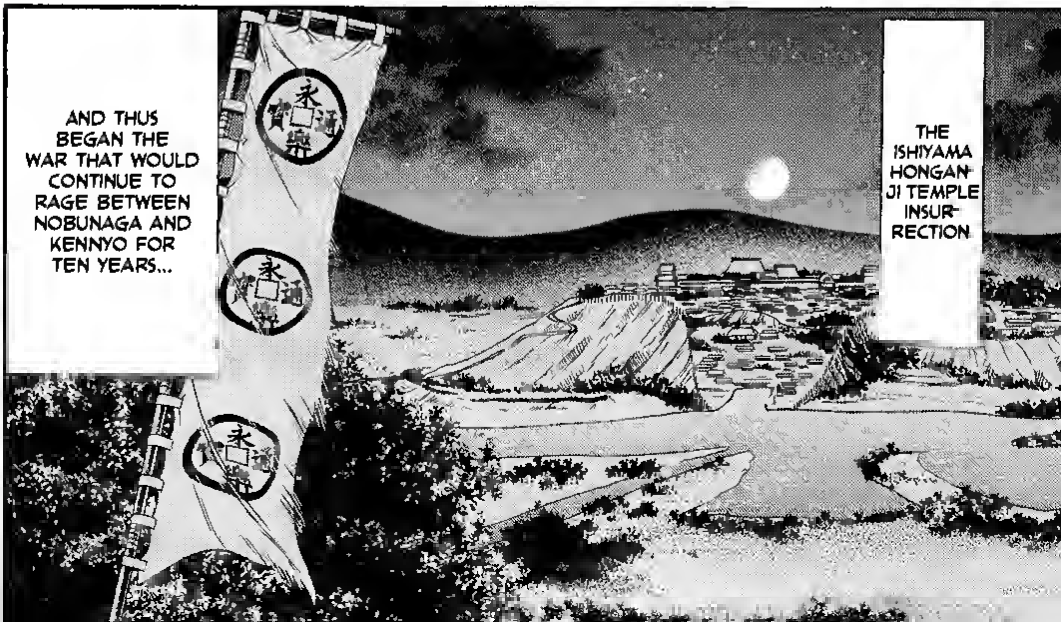
SFX Gooong Gooong

SFX Gooong

SFX Gooong Gooong Gooong

SFX: Gooong Gooong
ゴロゴロ
ゴロゴロ
THOSE WHO ADVANCE GO TO HEAVEN. THOSE WHO RETREAT ARE DAMNED TO HELL.
ODA NOBUNAGA IS A BUDDHIST INFIDEL!
SFX: Gooong
ゴロゴロ
MIDNIGHT ON THE 13TH OF SEPT-EMBER.
FROM INSIDE THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE, A BELL TOLLED THE CRISIS.

KEN-
NYO...!


AND THUS BEGAN THE WAR THAT WOULD CONTINUE TO RAGE BETWEEN NOBUNAGA AND KENNYO FOR TEN YEARS...
THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE INSUR-RECTION

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

TRANSLATOR: TALLRICE

PROOFREADER: FALLACY

EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

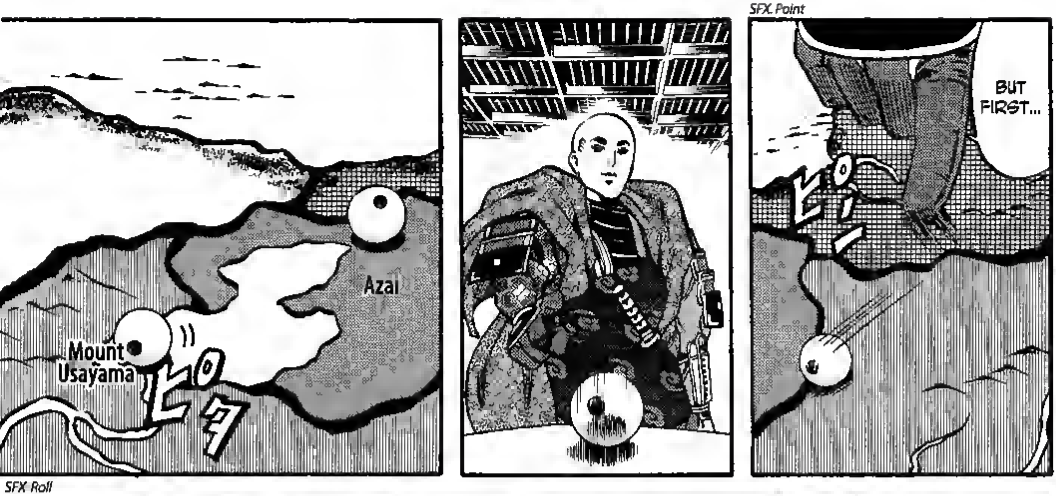
Chapter 42: The Nobunaga Opposition

SFX: Kapow Kapow Kapow

I COULD NOT HAVE HOPED FOR MORE-- LET US CRUSH THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI!
EN-GAGE THEM!
THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI ARMY HAS ADVANCED FROM ISHIYAMA TO THE YODO RIVER.
SFX Thump
THE ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI INSUR-RECTION...
...AND CREA-TED A DEAD-LOCK.
...IMMEDIATELY REVERSED THE FLOW OF THE NODA, FUKUSHIMA BATTLE JUST AS ODA'S ARMY WAS ABOUT TO SCORE A VICTORY.

KENNYO-SAMA, OUR CASUALTIES ARE ALSO INCREASING VERY QUICKLY.
SFX Slam
バタン
OUR BATTLE WITH HIM SHAN'T END SOON.
I AM SURE.
EVEN IF ODA-DONO JUDGED THAT WE DO NOT HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO RULE...
I DO NOT DOUBT IT.
WE ARE STILL ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL FACTIONS IN THIS WORLD OF WARRING STATES.
YES, SIR.
DID YOU SEND OUR SECRET ENVOY TO MOUNT HIEI TO TALK WITH AZAI-DONO AND ASAKURA-DONO?

SFX Clack
HIS RISE IS TOO SUDDEN...
SFX Clack Clack
...AND TOO BIZARRE IN HOW IT CAME ABOUT.
...TO AMASS SO MUCH POWER IN ONLY TEN YEARS, AS TO BE CLOSE TO RULING JAPAN...
CRACK
FOR A MERE DAIMYO OF OWARI LIKE ODA-DONO...
I SHALL RALLY THEM ALL TO ME.
THERE ARE MANY IN THIS COUNTRY WHO DO NOT LOOK UPON THAT FAVORA-BLY...
THEIR OBJECTIVE NOBUNAGA'S HEAD.
Asakura
Azai
Takeda
Ishiyama Hongan-ji
Oda Nobunaga
Miyoshi Faction
AN ALLIED OPPO-SITION...


Azai
Mount Usayama
ヒク
SFX: Point
BUT FIRST...
ヒョイ

SFX: Roll

LET US CUT OFF ODA'S RIGHT HAND.

SEN-SAMA, PLEASE REST A BIT LONGER.
Hmm...
I'LL MAKE SOMETHING TO ENERGIZE YOU.
I'M SURE IT'S TIRING.
IT'D USUALLY ONLY TAKE A DAY TO REACH MOUNT USAYAMA, BUT SINCE I'M SEARCHING FOR INGREDIENTS, WE'RE TAKING A LONGER ROUTE...

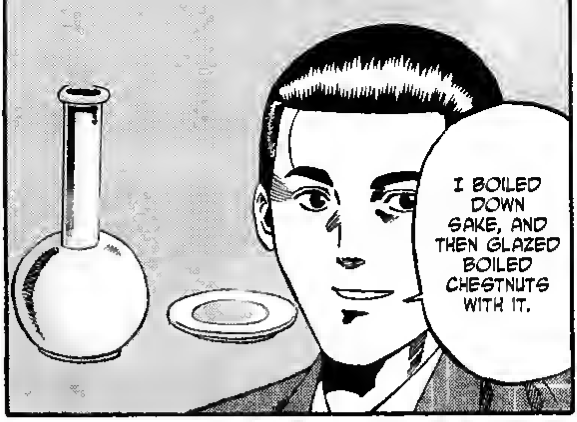
PETS DE NONNE?!
NO... I AM READY TO GET UP NOW.
WHY...
WHY DO YOU KNOW THAT NAME, SEN SAMA?!
THAT'S THE NAME OF A FRENCH SWEET.
...WHO CAN MAKE NANBAN SWEETS
I MET A WOMAN LIKE YOU AT ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE...

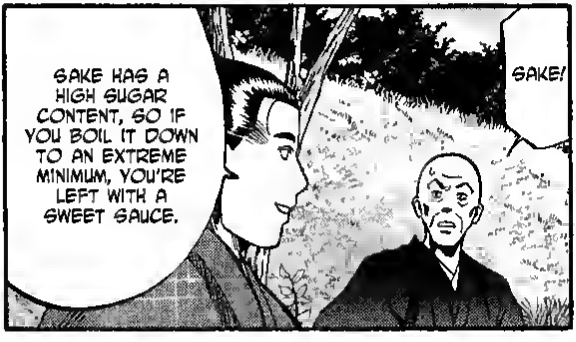
RETURN TO THE HEISEI!
!!
WERE THERE OTHERS BESIDES THAT GUY...?!
IS IT...
SFX: Drip
YOUR MY COM-RADE?!
HM?

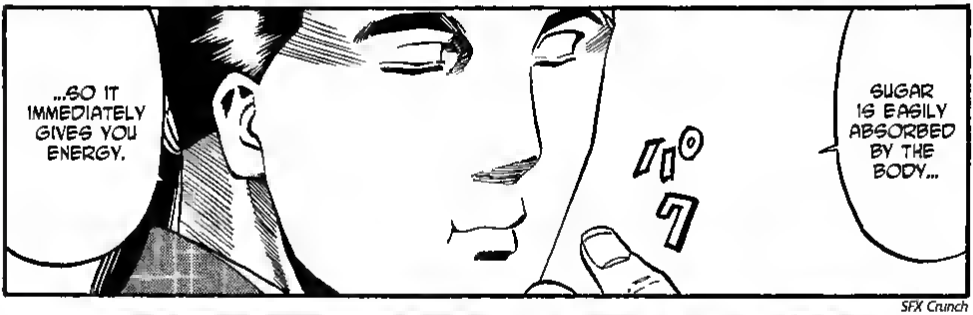
I WONDER IF THERE ISN'T SOME WAY I COULD MEET HER...
ISHI-YAMA HONG-AN-JI TEMPLE ...
ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU HAVE LOST YOUR MEMO-RIES?
HEH, OTHER THAN COOKING, I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING...
KEN, WHERE ARE YOU HEADED NOW?
DID HE CONTRACT SOME ILLNESS?
IT DOES NOT SEEM LIKE HE IS LYING.
SFX: Kling

I MUST ASCERTAIN THIS MAN'S TRUE NATURE.
I'M ON MY WAY TO DELIVER A BESTOWAL FROM THE LORD.
TO MOUNT USAYAMA IN OUMI.
EH...?
THERE IS SOMETHING I WISH TO TELL MORI-DONO.
I SHALL ACCOM-PANY YOU.
SFX: Pull
PLEASE HOLD ON TO MY WAKIZASHI SHORT SWORD.
AND... WHEN TRAVELLING, DESPITE NOT BEING ALLOWED TO WEAR SWORDS, THERE IS STILL A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF PREPARATION ONE SHOULD MAKE.

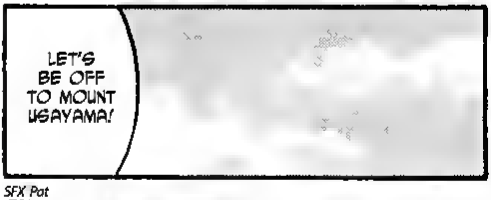
SORRY FOR THE WAIT.
THIS IS A NANBAN CONFECTION-- MARON GLACÉ.
IT IS STICKY AND SWEET...
AND THIS CRUNCHY BIT IS... CHESTNUT!



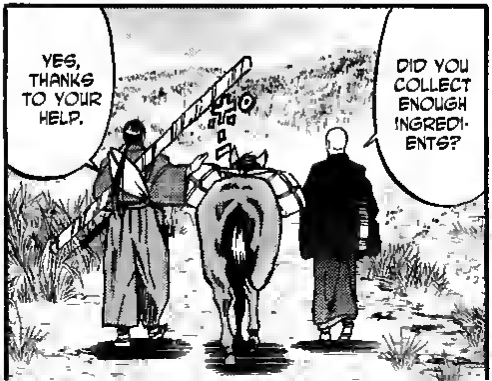




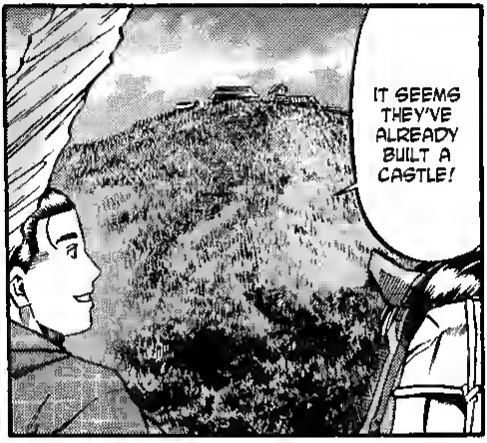
SFX Crunch

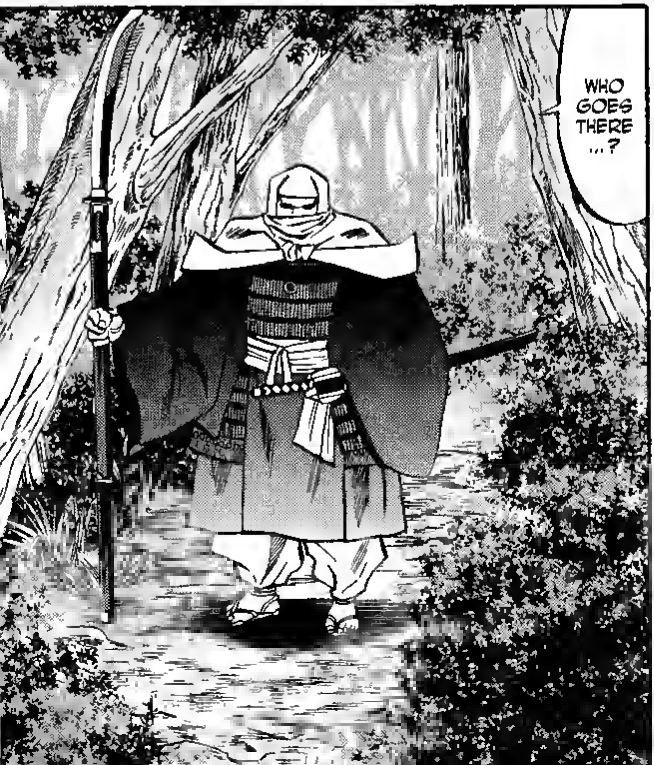


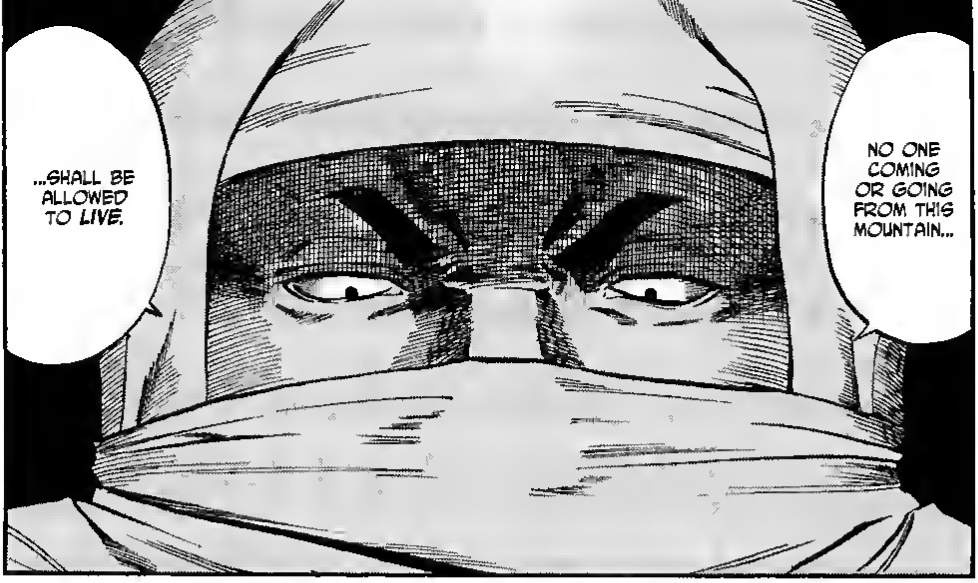
SFX Pot



WHAT IS THIS...?


IT SEEMS THEY'VE ALREADY BUILT A CASTLE!


WHO GOES THERE ...?



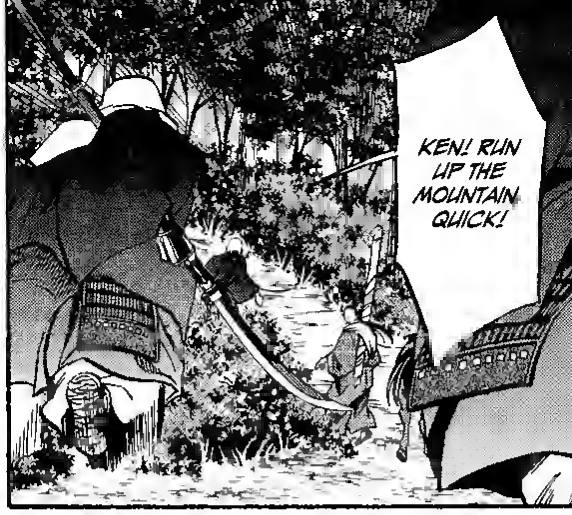
SFX: Clang

SFX: Step Back

SFX Crik Crik
GEN-SAMA!
WHAT IS ALL THE COM-MOTION HERE?!
SFX Whack
SFX Wave
TCH!

SFX: Rush Rush Rush

WHERE DID THEY GO?
SHIT...


KEN! RUN UP THE MOUNTAIN QUICK!

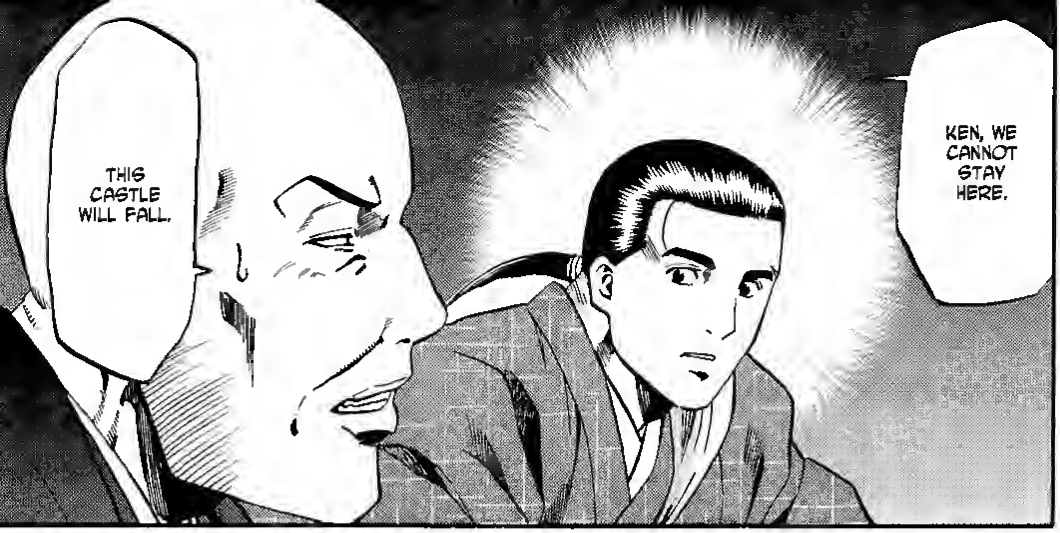
WHICH MEANS THAT ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI MUST HAVE MOBILIZED!
MOUNT HIEI IS ON THE MOVE...

SFX: Perk
I SEE THEM... OVER THIS WAY!

WHAT... IN THE WORLD?!
WAR RIOR MONKS ...
AND IF THEY ARE THAT WELL ORGANIZED, THEN THEY MUST BE FROM THE ENRYAKU-JI TEMPLE ON MOUNT HIEI.

IT IS ONE OF MORI YOSHI-NARI'S ENVOYS!
SFX: Slash
I HAVE... TELL... LORD...
SFX: Cramped
LISTEN UP. UNTIL AZAI-DONO AND ASAKURA-DONO'S ARMIES ARRIVE, WE CANNOT LET ANY ENVOYS ESCAPE BACK TO ODA'S MAIN ARMY.

SFX: March
SFX: March
SFX: March March
WE ARE TOO LATE...! I HAD MEANT TO TELL MORI-DONO THAT KENNYO-DONO HAD AN EYE ON HIM...
BUT HE IS ALREADY BLOCKADED BY WARRIOR MONKS FROM MOUNT HIE! AND UNDER THREAT OF ASSAULT BY THE ASAKURA AND AZAI ARMIES...!

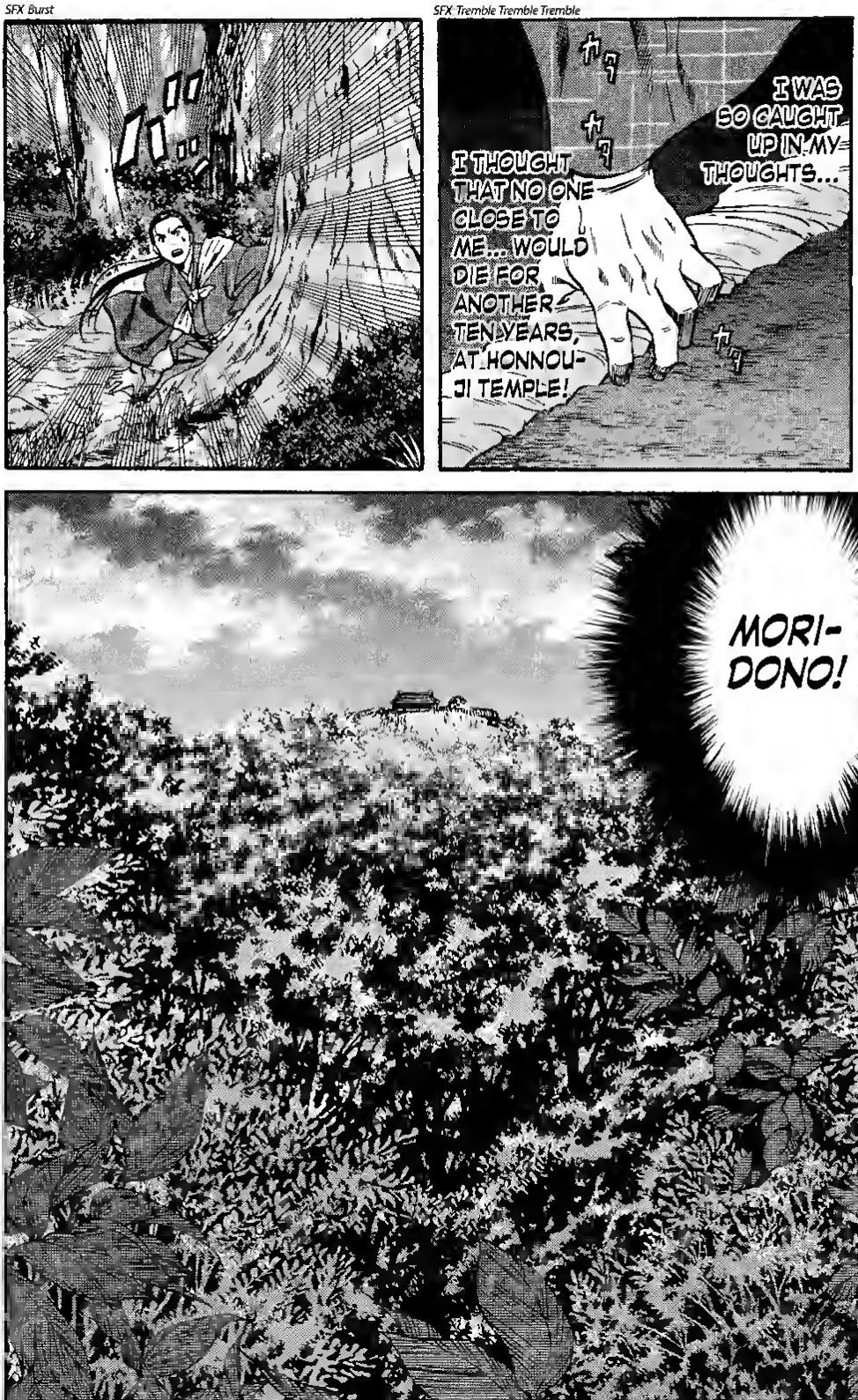

KEN, WE CANNOT STAY HERE.
THIS CASTLE WILL FALL.

I DON'T KNOW!

IN THE HISTORIES, MORI-DONO...

THIS CAN'T BE!

WHEN MORI-DONO IS SUPPOSED TO DIE!
I'VE NO IDEA...


SFX: Burst
SFX: Tremble Tremble Tremble
I WAS SO CAUGHT UP IN MY THOUGHTS...
I THOUGHT THAT NO ONE CLOSE TO ME... WOULD DIE FOR ANOTHER TEN YEARS, AT HONNOU-JI TEMPLE!
MORI-DONO!

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

CREDITS

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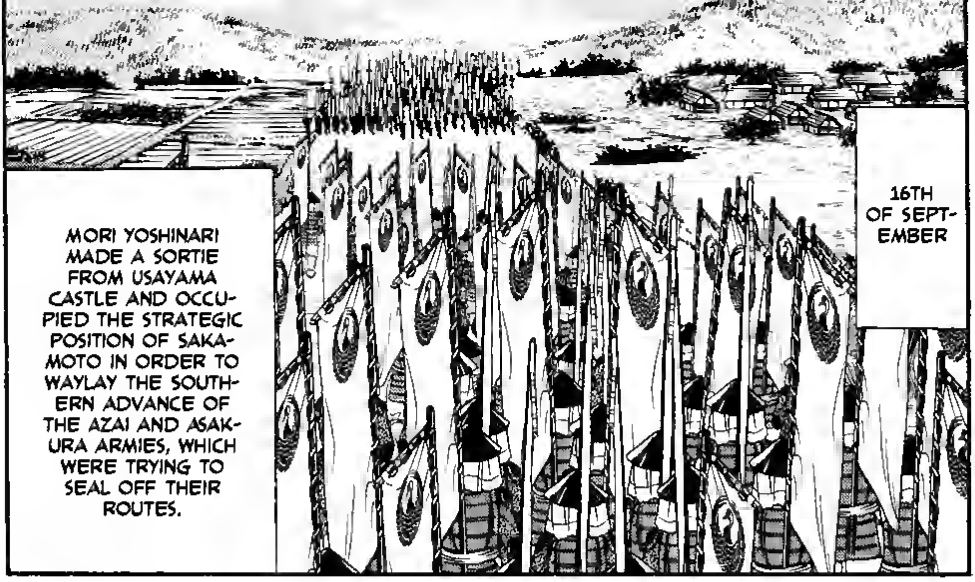
EDITOR: FALLACY

QC: PIMELEA

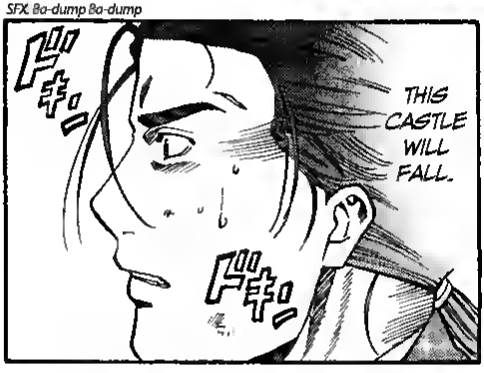
I SEE THEM... OVER THIS WAY!
SFX: Rush Rush
CAPTURE THEM!
SFX: Chirp Chirp Chirp
Haa
チチチ
Haa
SFX: Thump Thump Thump Thump Thump Thump
WH-WHAT IS THAT?!
THIS IS... AS FAR AS WE GO...
Haa
Haa
SFX: Tap Tap

Chapter 43 Cuisine Communicated to Mori

NO WAY, THEY ARE MAKING A SORTIE?!
THAT IS MORI YOSHI-NARI'S BANNER...
SFX Gasp
Ulag
SORTIE!
MIX WITH THE ARMY!
KEN, NOW!
SFX Thump Thump Thump Thump


16TH OF SEPTEMBER
MORI YOSHINARI MADE A SORTIE FROM USAYAMA CASTLE AND OCCUPIED THE STRATEGIC POSITION OF SAKAMOTO IN ORDER TO WAYLAY THE SOUTHERN ADVANCE OF THE AZAI AND ASAKURA ARMIES, WHICH WERE TRYING TO SEAL OFF THEIR ROUTES.

SFX. Ba-dump Ba-dump



THAT MAN ALWAYS...
STANDS AT THE VAN TO CUT DOWN FOES.

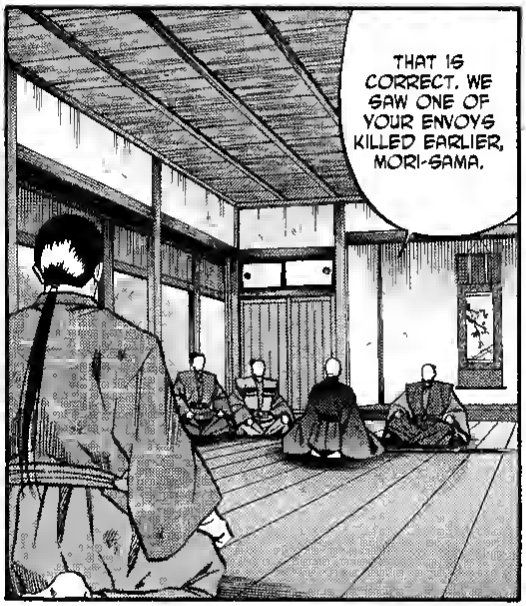
DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD BLOCK THIS ROAD WITH THESE PUNY NUMBERS?
IT IS NOT ENOUGH

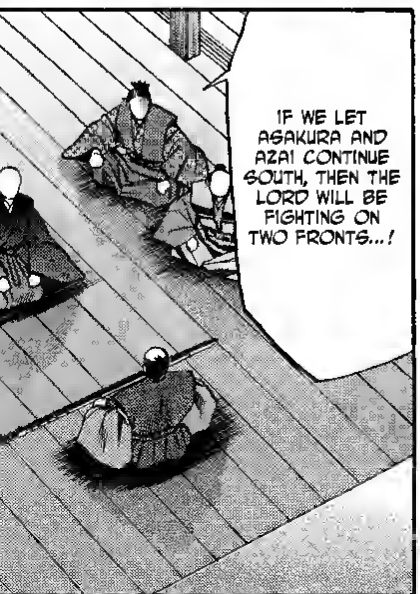
MORI... DONO ...?

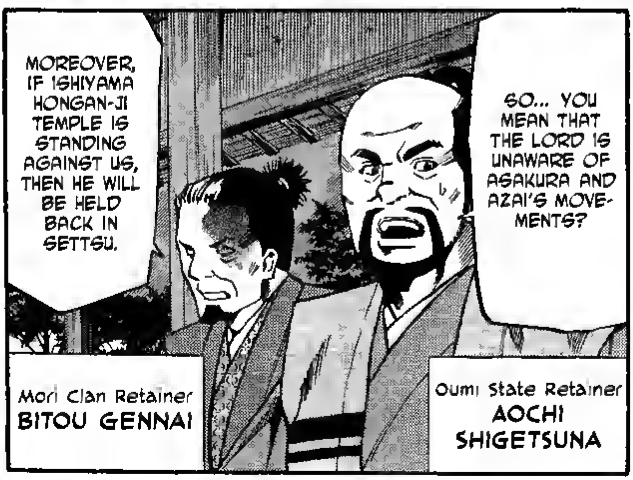
THE GREATEST WARRIOR AMONG NOBUNAGA'S RETAINERS.
THE MAN WHO OWNS THE TITLE SANZAE OF THE ATTACK.
THAT IS MORI YOSHI-NARI FOR YOU.
WHAT A MAN...
SFX: Trot Trot Trot Trot Trot
ドドドドドド
RE-TREAT!
IT IS NOT YET THE RIGHT TIME. WE CANNOT AFFORD ANY CASUALTIES!
...ENDED IN MORI YOSHINARI'S VICTORY WITH MINIMAL CASUALTIES.
IN THE HISTORIES, THE BATTLE OF USAYAMA CASTLE...

YOU SAY THAT THE WARRIOR MONKS OF MOUNT HIEI ARE SURROUNDING THE MOUNTAIN?!

I DO NOT KNOW HOW MANY ENVOYS YOU HAVE DISPATCHED...
BUT I PRESUME THAT NONE OF THEM HAS REACHED ODA-SAMA.

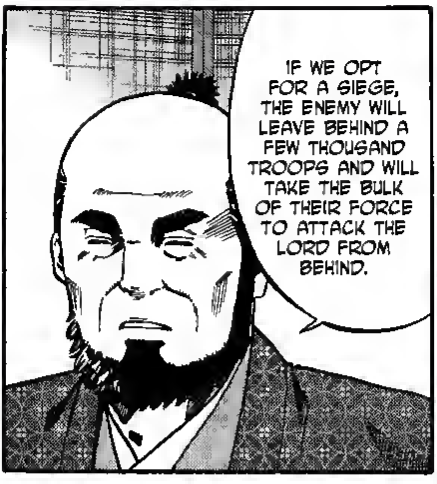

THAT IS CORRECT. WE SAW ONE OF YOUR ENVOYS KILLED EARLIER, MORI-SAMA.


IF WE LET ASAKURA AND AZAI CONTINUE SOUTH, THEN THE LORD WILL BE FIGHTING ON TWO FRONTS...!

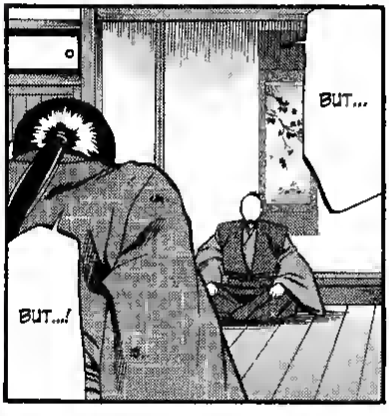

MOREOVER, IF ISHIYAMA HONGAN-JI TEMPLE IS STANDING AGAINST US, THEN HE WILL BE HELD BACK IN SETTSU.
SO... YOU MEAN THAT THE LORD IS UNAWARE OF ASAKURA AND AZAI'S MOVEMENTS?
Mori Clan Retainer
BITOU GENNAI
Oumi State Retainer
AOCHI SHIGETSUNA

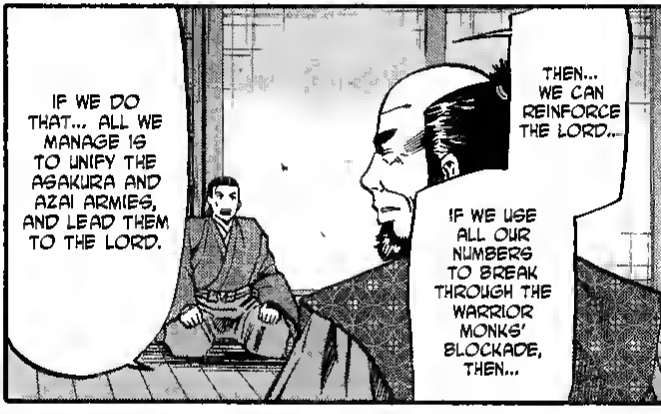
A REPORT!
THE ENEMY'S FORCES ARE BEING BOLSTERED BY WARRIOR MONKS FROM MOUNT HIEI AS WELL AS MILITANT FOLLOWERS OF THE IKKOU SECT.
THEIR NUMBERS ---ARE AT LEAST AROUND THIRTY THOU-SAND.
SFX: Slam
THIRTY... THOU-SAND...?
EVEN COUNTING ALL OUR FORCES, WE ARE ONLY THREE THOU-SAND...
MORI-DONO, WHAT SHALL WE DO?

WE WILL USE THE CHANCE CREATED BY THE BATTLE TO SEND AN ENVOY TO THE LORD.
WE CANNOT LET OURSELVES BE CUT OFF HERE.
WE SHALL HIT THEM HARD
THE OUTCOME OF SUCH A BATTLE IS..
THIRTY THOUSAND VERSUS THREE THOUSAND.
DEATH...
AS YOU COM-MAND...!
AS...


IF WE OPT FOR A SIEGE, THE ENEMY WILL LEAVE BEHIND A FEW THOUSAND TROOPS AND WILL TAKE THE BULK OF THEIR FORCE TO ATTACK THE LORD FROM BEHIND.

WA-- WAIT!
WHAT ABOUT A SIEGE ...?!


BUT...
BUT...!


IF WE DO THAT... ALL WE MANAGE IS TO UNIFY THE ASAKURA AND AZAI ARMIES, AND LEAD THEM TO THE LORD.
THEN... WE CAN REINFORCE THE LORD...
IF WE USE ALL OUR NUMBERS TO BREAK THROUGH THE WARRIOR MONKS' BLOCKADE, THEN...

SILENCE!

THE LORD DOESN'T WANT YOU TO DIE...

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, KEN...?
SFX. Thunk
SFX. Guh
I WILL NOT ALLOW A CHEF...
...TO OPEN HIS MOUTH DURING A MILITARY DISCUSSION.
THEN...
LET ME PREPARE FOOD.

SFX: Slick
ス…
THAT'S ENOUGH.
DO AS YOU WISH...
ALL WE HAVE IS EGGPLANT WE GOT FROM THE PEASANTS THOUGH.
...WHO DOESN'T WANT NOBUNAGA DONO TO DIE.
BUT I...
IT'S NOT NOBUNAGA...
ガク
SFX: Slice

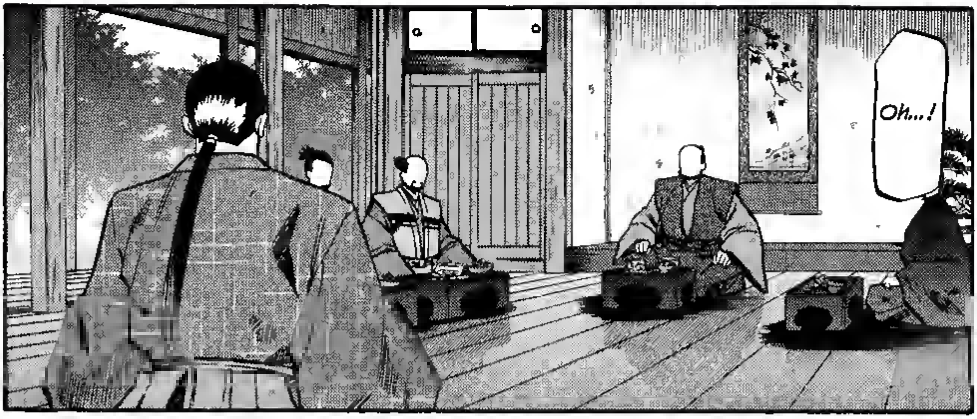
IT HAD A STRAIGHT-FORWARD AND SINCERE FLAVOR THAT SEEMED TO CONCEAL NO LIES.
IF I MUST GIVE A REASON, THEN MAYBE IT IS BECAUSE OF YOUR COOKING...
MORI-SAMA, WHY WOULD YOU SHOW SUCH KINDNESS TO SOMEONE LIKE ME...?
PLEASE GO SPEAK TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT.
THIS IS NOT YOUR FIGHT ALONE.
KEN!...
WHAT AN INNOVATIVE PRESENTATION!
I CAN TAKE AS MUCH AS I WANT OF THE DISHES I LIKE!
MAYBE IT'S WEIRD TO HAVE THESE KINDS OF THOUGHTS IN THIS AGE.
FOR ME...
STILL...
...THERE'S AN ENORMOUS DIFFERENCE IN RANK.
BETWEEN AN EMINENT RETAINER AND A CHEF OF THE ODA CLAN...

I THINK OF YOU...

...AS A FRIEND.

EGGPLANT CAVIAR WITH SOFT BOILED EGG AND AN EGGPLANT AND UMEBOSHI COLD SOUP.

MEAT-SAUCE STYLE EGGPLANT SEASONED WITH POPPY SEEDS.


Oh...!

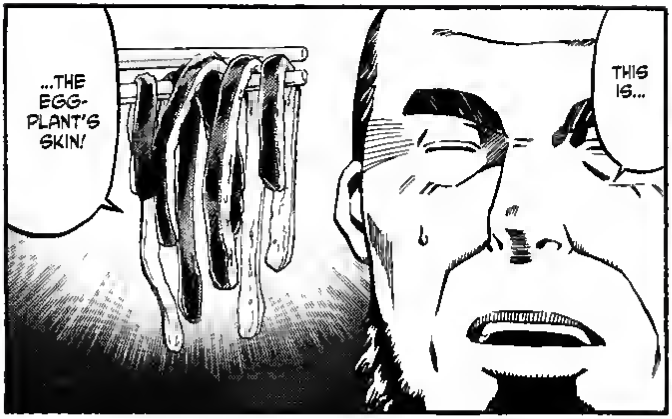
I DID NOT HAVE ANY APPETITE...
HOW REFRE-SHING THIS SOUP IS...
BUT THE SOURNESS OF THE UMEBOSHI AND THE SWEETNESS OF THE EGGPLANT BRING MY APPETITE BACK.

AS ALWAYS, YOU HAVE AMAZING SKILLS.
TO BE ABLE TO MAKE SO MUCH WITH JUST EGGPLANT.

IT HAS A CONSISTENCY ALMOST LIKE A WELL-SLICED FATTY SASHIMI...
HOW SMOOTH ...
I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT IS EGGPLANT.

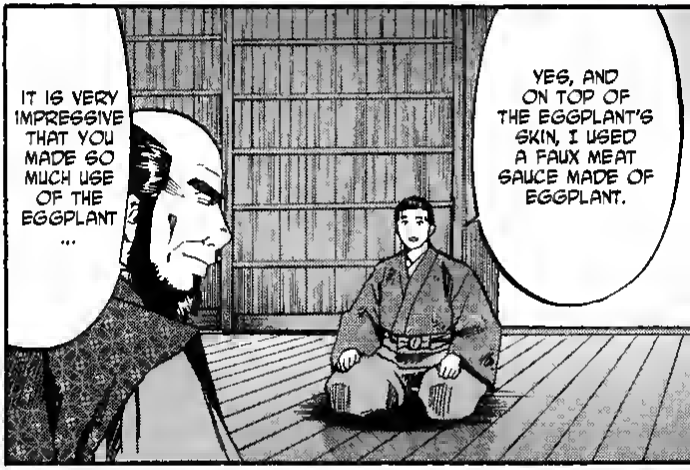
トロ!

SFX: Dribble


...THE EGG-PLANT'S SKIN!
THIS IS...

Hmm?

NO...
THERE'S STILL MORE.


IT IS VERY IMPRESSIVE THAT YOU MADE SO MUCH USE OF THE EGGPLANT ...
YES, AND ON TOP OF THE EGGPLANT'S SKIN, I USED A FAUX MEAT SAUCE MADE OF EGGPLANT.

SFX Crumble

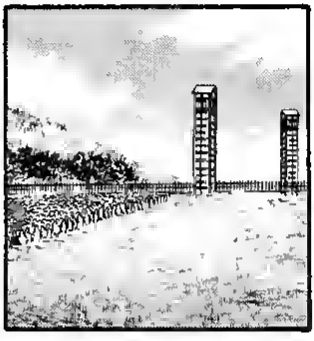
WITH THIS... YOU HAVE ALL OF THE EGGPLANT.
コトッ
THIS IS CRISPED EGGPLANT CALYX.
IT'S EFFECTIVE AS A MEDICINE AGAINST CAVITIES AND INFLAMMATION OF THE MOUTH.

THE THOUGHT PUT INTO THIS MEAL...
AH, I SEE.
THERE IS NOT A SINGLE PART THAT IS WASTED.
...IS THAT EVERY BIT OF THE EGGPLANT IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF ITS EXISTENCE.
...THAT LIFE SHOULD BE VALUED.
IT SIGNIFIES...

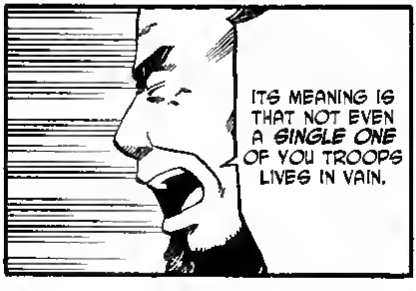
LET US FEED THIS TO EVERYONE TOMO-RROW.

KEN...

I'VE NEVER HAD ANYTHING THIS DELICIOUS BEFORE...!
DELI-CIOUS!



MORI-DONO ...?


ITS MEANING IS THAT NOT EVEN A SINGLE ONE OF YOU TROOPS LIVES IN VAIN.

Uuu-uh...
Ugh...

...AND THUS OUR LORD'S INTENTIONS ARE PRESENT IN IT.
LISTEN WELL! THIS IS SOMETHING MADE BY OUR LORD'S HEAD CHEF...

JUST AS THE EGGPLANT WILL LIVE ON AS OUR FLESH AND BLOOD...
OUR LIVES WILL CONTINUE WITHIN OUR LORD!
SFX Roooooaaaar
SFX Roooar
ALL OF YOU...
I AM SORRY...
MORI-DONO!

EVEN THOUGH IT'S SO HARD FOR YOU TO STOMACH LEADING YOUR SUBORDINATES DOWN THIS PATH...!

EVEN THOUGH IT'S...

EVEN SO...
ARE YOU REALLY NOT GOING TO TELL THEM THAT YOU DON'T WANT THEM TO DIE?!

Food from the Warring States Period

Column

Text and recipe by Nishimura Mitsuru

Croissant means crescent moon. The outside is crispy while the inside is a moist and springy pie layer, and when you bite into it, the taste of butter permeates the mouth. Truly delicious! There are two stories of the croissant's origin. One has it that in 1683, the Austrian army defeated the Turkish army that had besieged the Austrian capital, Vienna. Elated with victory, the Viennese citizens made bread in the shape of the crescent moon, the symbol on the Turkish army's banners and proclaimed, "Devour the Turkish army!" The other story goes that in 1686, when the Turkish army, now surrounding Budapest, started to dig a tunnel beneath the walls, the baker, who first realized what was going on and notified his allies, was given a reward after the war of special rights, to be the only person allowed to make crescent shaped bread in the city.

According to this version, this bread then spread to Vienna, and around 1914, made its way to France. The idea of "eating one's enemy" also existed in Japan until the present, when athletes or examinees would eat bifteck (eating teck/teki--enemy in Japanese) or tonkatsu fried pork (for katsu--victory in Japanese). These puns have existed since ancient times, and Oda Nobunaga often expressed katsuobushi (dried bonito flakes) as its homonym "winning man samurai" and used it for praying for victory. Another example is from the Meiji Period, during the Sino-Japanese and Russo-Japanese wars, when the military dried a lot of bonito flakes and sent them to the front lines as rations. The commanders must have been trying to send the message, "You must win!"

Recipe

Kiritanpo Hot Pot

Ingredients

1 cup of rice / 6 turnips / 6 stalks of young sprig onion / half a burdock root / one strip of kombu / a lime (or a lemon if you don't have one).

1. Crush the rice with a wooden pestle, stick it onto a disposable chopstick or kebab skewer, and then grill it over an open flame.
2. Put water in a pan and slice the kombu into it with scissors, and then raise the heat to medium. After the water becomes lukewarm, lower the flame to minimum, and let it simmer for about 30 minutes. Make sure not to let it boil.
3. Take the kombu out of the pan and pour the water into the nabe pot.
4. Add salt to taste, then add the kiritanpo you grilled, the burdock root, thinly sliced, the turnip and the sprig onion and heat it up.
5. Lastly, add the zest and juice of the lime.

Some Extra Tips

It tastes really good seasoned with sesame seeds and black pepper, which you can add to the individual serving bowls. Also, you might find it a bit insipid at first, but consider trying it without soy sauce.

T/N: Nishimura-sensei lists his historical sources for the manga at the bottom of the page, but as you're reading a scanlation and thus are unlikely to delve into Japanese Warring States Period history books, I took the liberty of omitting this

SCS

PRESENTS

NOBUNAGA NO CHEF

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